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APRIL 1988 \$1.95

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APRIL 1988

Vol. 10 No. 4



COVER STORY

The successor to Father Moses Coady in Antigonish is also the chairperson of Devco in industrial Cape Breton. Are there contradictions in Teresa MacNeil's two positions? **PAGE 18**

COVER PHOTO BY ALBERT LEE



HOMES

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PROFILE

The mayor of Dartmouth has been called both a "breath of fresh air" and "a disappointment." Dr. John Savage raises questions and looks for answers — at home and abroad. **PAGE 53**



FOOD

The only thing better than a fresh, green salad is a fresh green salad that's mostly free. Wild edibles — where to find them, when to pick them, how to use them. **PAGE 56**

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Bringing quality products

You may have noticed that over the last few months we have started to run ads offering a selection of high quality Atlantic products by mail order. This month we are launching a new item, hand-crafted Mic Mac baskets made on Prince Edward Island.

The idea for an *Insight* direct mail service is one which we have borrowed from other Canadian and American magazines. Our approach is to use a few of our advertising pages each month to feature products which deserve to be better known and more accessible in the region. Our MacAusland Blanket ad which we ran during the winter is a good example. This surprising business located near the northwestern tip of Prince Edward Island gathers up raw wool from Maritime sheep farmers, spins it, dyes it, and turns it into top quality blankets in lovely colours. Apart from a few retailers, craft stores and the factory itself, MacAusland Blankets are very difficult to find. Hence our ad, providing a service to our readers and at the same time helping MacAusland become better known in the region.

So far our most popular direct mail items have been our publications — books and maps. We had a very strong response to our ad for the large four colour wall map of the Maritime provinces prepared by the Maritime Provinces Education Foundation. A small ad for a knitting pattern book featuring traditional Maritime and Maine mitten patterns drew extremely well.

Atlantic Canada's small manufacturers and producers of high quality consumer items often have difficulty making their products known and reaching potential customers in their own backyard. With our direct mail ads, we hope that we can do our bit to assist them, provide ads of interest to you as readers, and earn some additional revenue for the magazine in the process.

April is the month of the cook-off in Charlottetown at the Culinary Institute of Canada for our second annual *Insight* recipe contest. Again this year, the 12 finalists will be coming to meet each other, cook their recipes, enjoy a fine awards banquet prepared by the chefs and students of the Culinary Institute, and receive prizes.

Our photographer will be busy all day, catching informal shots of the contestants at work, and taking photos of their dishes for our July food feature issue. We're planning to feature the winner on our cover again this year and we expect to

attract the attention of many of our summer visitors.

Every so often an invitation comes in the mail for a media event being promoted by an organization in which we have a particular interest. This happened a few weeks ago when the Fisheries Council of Canada, an organization which represents Quebec and Atlantic Canada fish producers (but not those of B.C.) held a promotional lunch in Moncton to launch a \$2 million seafood promotion which is running now.

When you consider the enormous efforts of other producer groups in Canada — the milk producers, chicken producers, beef and pork producers — it's evident that seafood, and particularly fresh seafood, is underpromoted. It may not be in the same category as MacAusland Blankets, but there certainly is less effort than for other major food products.

Talking to the people at the Fisheries Council, I learned that there is definitely a need for more promotion of our seafood — and this was the case long before the clam and mussel scare last Christmas. The Fisheries Council has found that the main barrier to increased consumption of seafood in Canada is that people are a little scared of fish and seafood. Not scared about its quality or the risk of poisonings, scared because they don't know exactly how they should handle and prepare it, and they believe that cooking fish well is difficult to do.

Considering the wonderful network that every Maritime and Newfoundland family seems to have to friends and relatives across Canada, I wondered whether there should be a role for all of us in helping other Canadians overcome their fear of fish. We know already that other Canadians think of fish when they think of our region — so what we need to do is to think of ways of turning that to our advantage. There's obviously great potential here for us to share the culture and heritage of our region with the rest of the country.

Needless to say, the Fisheries Council is taking a more traditional approach to their \$2 million promotion. They're spending their money on short commercials telling the country that Canadian seafood is Number One in the world. I suppose that may make our chests swell a little with pride, but think of what a band of two million dedicated Maritimers and Newfoundlanders could achieve in helping their fellow Canadians on a one-to-one basis overcome their fear of fish.

— James Lorimer

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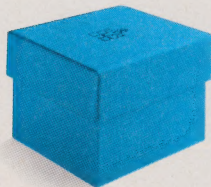


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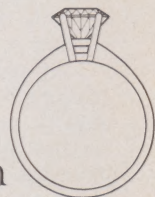
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The Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta.

The Maclean Hunter Chair in Arts Journalism will establish a unique program for journalists specializing in the arts. This endowment qualifies for the two-for-one dollar matching program of the Alberta Government.



École des Hautes Études Commerciales, Montreal, Quebec.

The Maclean Hunter Chair in Entrepreneurship will foster excellence in business technology and research in this pre-eminent Quebec business centre.



The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.

The Maclean Hunter Professorship in International Business at the School of Business Administration will focus on issues related to the timely subject of international management.



The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.

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FEEDBACK

The Innovator controversy

In light of the controversy that surrounded my recognition as co-winner of the "Innovator of the Year" award, I would like to make the following comments.

Firstly, I wish to point out that I am a Native Labradorian, my parents still live in Sheshashit (the largest of two Innu communities in Labrador), and I operate a handicraft business which provides gainful employment to natives.

I respect and admire anyone who takes a public stand for what they believe in. However, I find it extremely objectionable when judgements are made before making an honest effort to understand all sides of the issue...

I would like to ask the peace activists why they are not cleaning up their own backyard first: closing down Greenwood and Summerside; getting rid of the huge military presence in Halifax? Why are they not protesting at the Saint John shipyards which have been awarded the contract to build six new frigates for the Navy? I would suggest that it is far more comfortable to protest developments from afar because they do not have to suffer the consequences of their actions. While we suffer unemployment (80 per cent in coastal Labrador) and enormous hardships, they still have their jobs and a warm hearth to go home to.

We believe a strong defence is necessary to maintain peace in this world. Proof that this works was manifested in the recent signing of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear (INF) Treaty between the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan of the United States. If these weapons were not placed in Western Europe in the 1970s the Soviets would not have felt the pressure to sign this treaty in the 1980s. Contrary to peace activist claims, their protest was not the trigger.

It is a matter of public record that both myself and the Mokami Project Group support all native land claims initiatives, but we also support the military presence in Labrador. We firmly believe that the activity can co-exist with all native and other populations. It requires a process of ongoing consultations based on mutual respect. Although certain commercial interests are obviously a factor in this situation, it is the overall progress and advancement of Labrador, using what few demonstrated advantages our area has, that motivates our position. We welcome any viable alternative developments wherever they appear and many of us continue to strive to that end.

Claris Rudkowski
Mokami Project Group
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador

...What was not reported in your article is that her coalition of "concerned

citizens for a positive future" (mostly business people) stands to make a lot of money from an expanded military presence in Goose Bay. Ms. Rudkowski has been a tireless advocate, not for the common workers or the native peoples of the area affected, but for a privileged few...

Herb Brown
Nain, Labrador

...Ms. Rudkowski and her organization have consistently failed to deal with the question of the morality of militarization, and whether there are realistic economic alternatives to low-level flying and a NATO base at Goose Bay; rather, their approach has been one of short-sighted opportunism. It should be pointed out that their opportunism has been well-rewarded, to the tune of \$400,000 from the Federal Government this year — several times more money than the organizations opposed to the NATO base operate on. As someone from the same part of Labrador as Ms. Rudkowski, it saddens me that her group is content to be nothing more than a cheering section for the military. If the Mokami Project Group believes that having the future of Goose Bay decided by NATO Headquarters is going to give Labradorians more local control, then they are either more unrealistic than they look, or deliberately misleading other Labradorians.

Richard Budgel
Ottawa, Ontario

Project Ploughshares...has documented the ill effects of low-level flight training over the Innu lands in Labrador and Quebec and we have thus been concerned by the suffering inflicted on the native population. It has also been well documented that military spending is a relatively poor way of creating employment and promoting economic development.

We have also been concerned by the ultimate purpose of low-level flight training. The latter is one component of a World War III strategy called Follow on Force Attack (FOFA) or, more popularly, "Deep Strike," for use inside Eastern Bloc territory. The jets being used, such as the Tornado GR1, can carry either conventional or nuclear weapons. Many people, particularly in Europe, understandably fear that a conventional FOFA attack could well be misinterpreted and thus initiate nuclear escalation.

Goose Bay citizens and the rest of Canada should consider where our current military policies are taking us.

Brian Dufton
Project Ploughshares

...I am not a member of Project North, the Green Party, Project Ploughshares, the Canadian Peace Alliance,

Greenpeace or any other such organization. I also have had very limited contact with Canada's native peoples and I had never heard of the Innu people before last year. It really bothers me to see people like Ms. Rudkowski and the Mokami Project applauded for the work they are doing while the effects which this work will have on other people and on the environment is being trivialized, marginalized and ignored, both by the people doing the work and by the media...

Susan Phinney
Ottawa, Ont.

As children in World War II, living in two different areas of Britain, we both had experience of one of the end results of low-level flying, the bombing and machine-gunning of a civilian population. It was certainly not part of anybody's "strong defence system" and we would not recommend inflicting the experience on others.

Claris Rudkowski and the Mokami Project Group should keep this aspect in mind when they urge the extension of military development in Goose Bay.

John and Valerie Osborne
Dartmouth, N.S.

...The Coalition Against Apartheid was formed in 1985 when church, labour and community groups in the Halifax/Dartmouth region came together to co-ordinate and consolidate their anti-apartheid work. Our goals specify efforts to end apartheid and guarantee the right to self-determination of all people in South Africa. Our objectives include a determination "to work with and co-ordinate efforts with organizations with similar objectives."

We believe that the Innu people of Labrador/Quebec are working for just similar objectives. We support their struggle against the militarization of their homeland. We recognize that for them, as for Black people in South Africa, racism is an obstacle in the way of their achieving self-determination. Outsiders have declared the Innu's land to be uninhabited. Other outsiders must join in the making of the Innu inhabitants visible and their claims legitimate...

Far from "innovative," exploitation and subjugation of native peoples in Canada is an old and shameful story.

We strongly protest that *Atlantic Insight* has chosen to make this award.

Barbara Rumscheidt
Coalition Against Apartheid

In praise of Rudkowski

I was very pleased to see in your January issue that Claris Rudkowski was one of the recipients of your Innovator of the Year award. Claris has done a lot, a great deal, for this area — in fact, for

FEEDBACK

Labrador. Her voice echoes the hopes and thoughts of most of us who are concerned for the economic well-being of Happy Valley-Goose Bay and the surrounding areas. We do not want our community to slip into oblivion and have the population become a drain on the welfare system of this country. Claris has been able to draw people together to struggle for some stability for the area...

Doris J. Saunders
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador

Let's see the other side

I read with regret your Special Report, *Hard to erase bitter memories of school days filled with fear* (Feb.'88) and I fail to see that it is informative or entertaining.

Please keep your magazine articles up with current worthwhile happenings that are uplifting and worth reading. Why not ask your writer to do an article on all the good things those Sisters are doing or have done in the past?

Katherine MacDonald
Kinkora, P.E.I.

On the other hand

May I commend reporter Heather Laskey for a very informative Special Report, *Hard to erase bitter memories of school days filled with fear* (Feb. '88). Besides all the other injustices inflicted upon the native people — placing them on reserves, imposing our "pure white" culture on them — the horrifying recollections of the past students of the Indian Residential School in Shubenacadie make one recoil in shame that such atrocities were practised on defenseless children...

Gisele LeBlanc
Dieppe, N.B.

...I was especially moved by the Special Report, by Heather Laskey, which told of the sad legacy of the Indian Residential School experience on the Micmac people in the Maritimes. I hope that she will continue to use the "oral history" method to discover more about such undocumented issues in the future.

If the photographers (of the pictures accompanying the article) are unknown, the author ought to have cited her sources, whether a local archives or private collection, to increase the informational content and historical value of her article...

Wilma MacDonald
Ottawa, Ont.

I enjoy most of the articles appearing in your *Atlantic Insight*. However, there was no enjoyment as I read the article on how the students were disciplined at the Indian Residential School in Shubenacadie. I will only say I was disgusted and comment that the Sisters of Charity were less than charitable in their running of the school...

G.O. Watson
Nepean, Ont.

According to Harry Bruce

I was somewhat dismayed with Harry Bruce's analysis of an editorial which he mistakenly described as an "informed example of why every society needs an alternative press" (Feb.'88). I wish to assure you and your readers that the excerpts cited in Mr. Bruce's column are neither informed nor accurate.

The tourism and hospitality industry provides greater potential for job creation than any other industry in Canada. Certainly, there are no guarantees, but... tourism enjoys a relatively better position than most other regional industries in its ability to utilize its resources in maintaining an effective market presence on a world-wide scale.

We don't market "bunk" to tourists as Mr. Bruce suggests. If our product did not live up to its marketing, our visitation would be declining. In fact, regular increases in visitation have been evident for a number of years. We must be doing something right...

Donald R. Craig
Tourism and Hospitality Management
Mount Saint Vincent University
Halifax, N.S.

Harry Bruce's column *When a spade's not a spade* (Jan. '88) should be made required reading for all those bureaucrats who are methodically, and sometimes successfully, neutralizing the Queen's English...

Fortunately, camouflaging reality was not in vogue when Dostoyevsky wrote his classic *Crime and Punishment* — it could have been titled *Inappropriate Action and Correctional Incarceration!*...

Rod Ainsworth
Coquitlam, B.C.

...Two words which I despise and which commentators use *ad nauseum* are "credibility" and "integrity." Why, instead, can we not speak of Mulroney's (and others') "truthfulness" and "honesty?" Some other words and phrases that are misused include "bottom line," "touch base" and "track record"...

Gordon MacLeod
Sydney, N.S.

...Mr. Bruce said that while driving in New Brunswick, he was pleased to see signs that simply declared "Public Dump" rather than "Landfill Site" as is the case in other places. Well, no sooner can you say "don't you know" than this endangered species is extinct, even in New Brunswick. The provincial government is now carrying out plans to close all public dumps and open regional landfill sites.

In case anyone gets the idea that New Brunswick is immune to doublespeak — for the past year, nobody in this province has received "welfare." We've been get-

ting "income assistance"...

Richard Shelley
President
Unemployed Workers of Rural Canada
Glassville, N.B.

Down with pubnags

Ray Guy has once again used his deft pen to put into perspective the undue influence of the "Pubnags" on the lives of Canadians: *A wild explosion of pubnag* (Jan. '88).

We found it refreshing that *Atlantic Insight* had the courage to publish a criticism of these warts on society who presume to dictate how we conduct our lives.

Thank you.

Don and Diane Prosser
Halifax, N.S.

No nukes for the Navy

Ralph Surette described in an excellent manner the folly of the proposed nuclear submarine program from economic and military points of view, *Putting one over on Canadians* (Jan.'88), but there are at least two other important reasons why citizens should refuse to accept this boondoggle: Canada's wise, non-nuclear policy will be breached, and residents of Halifax and Dartmouth, where the subs will presumably be based, will face even a peacetime radioactive threat from accidents involving the nuclear reactors.

Martin R. Haase
Chester, N.S.

...I would be interested in learning Ralph Surette's qualifications for writing on defence matters. I suspect they are non-existent.

Putting one over on Canadians (Jan. '88) is indeed a cheap shot at the first government in a quarter of a century to take any action on improving our defence position. Surette's expertise on cost overruns is probably no better than that of most Canadians and the same should apply to the so-called expert from Britain. The fact that Canada has been spending a smaller percentage of GNP on defence than the other NATO countries has made our forces the butt of NATO jokes...

T.M. BurrIDGE
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Victory for women long overdue

When I read Carol McLeod's article *Common sense decision in high court ruling* (Jan. '88), I was amazed that any court would have the gall to compare women's breasts to men's beards. Thank goodness Judge C. Blake Lynch was successful in urging the Crown to seek another interpretation...

The victory for women in Canada was long overdue. It was about time that the courts redefined sexual assault so that a woman can be considered to have been assaulted without sexual intercourse taking place.

Jennifer Benner
Victoria, B.C.

Covered with sensationalism

It was with great disgust that I read the article *Victims of harassment leave but who's next on the list?* (Jan. '88) about that "combat zone" called Tignish, P.E.I. I grew up in that fearsome community and in fact my family still lives there. I am disgusted with the sensationalism of your article. It may be a rough little community to live in and yes, it is lacking in citizens speaking out about the vandalism. The point you have missed, is that many other small communities in rural Canada are similar in composition to Tignish. I can recall incidents of fear in Souris, Montague, O'Leary, etc.. Tignish may not be the perfect community, but it is home to me.

Anita Perry
Toronto, Ont.

Packed with Yuletide spirit

Congratulations on the December issue of *Atlantic Insight* beginning with the beautiful doll cover. The accompanying story, *And toys for your delight* was the answer to the Christmas dreams of children and recalls Yuletide memories of Christmases past to all ages...

So may the December *Insight* reflect the spirit of Christmas for years to come with stories from the Atlantic Provinces and a bit of fiction (or poetry) that brings the meaning of Christmas home to everyone — not forgetting the regular contributors that make *Insight* something to look forward to all year: Harry Bruce, Ray Guy and others...

Thank you for your contribution to Yuletide reading pleasure.

Ruberta Potter
Plympton, N.S.

Story strikes close to home

Deirdre Kessler's story *Home for Christmas* (Dec. '87) intrigued me as I am one of the many Grandma Gallants of Prince Edward Island. I promptly saw to it that each family of my grandchildren (57 of them) from Nova Scotia to British Columbia received a copy of it among their Christmas greetings.

Deirdre has the special talent in being able to express inner feelings of children. The Acadian *pâté* is traditional fare in all our families, one of our ways to preserve our heritage and culture. I always look forward to the next issue of *Atlantic Insight*.

Mrs. Clarisse Gallant
Souris, P.E.I.



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Restoring confidence in P.E.I. mussels and oysters

Preventing another disastrous ban by finding a foolproof testing procedure is a priority for Prince Edward Island growers

by John Gracey

More than 3,500 licensed fishermen and aquaculturists count on the mollusc industry for their livelihood on Prince Edward Island. The Island, known for the quality of its quahogs (a hardshell clam), oysters and cultured "Blue" mussels, drew worldwide attention when these products were banned from the market early in December of last year.

A toxin was found in some P.E.I. mussels that was blamed for the deaths of two people and the cause of sickness in more than 100 people. Island mussels were banned Dec. 1, 1987 and on Dec. 6, a ban was placed on all molluscs in Atlantic Canada.

The shock wave was felt throughout the industry. Products were recalled from stores and wholesalers across Canada and the United States, and destroyed. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Health and Welfare Canada and local departments of fisheries mobilized hundreds of scientists, inspectors and technicians. Thousands of samples of shellfish had to be taken from all across Atlantic Canada and tested. (One biologist estimates between 7,500 and 10,000 samples in all.) Scientists had never seen anything like it and neither the toxin nor its source has yet to be positively identified.

The toxin was found in only one area in the eastern part of P.E.I., and as tests came back negative from the other provinces the ban was slowly lifted.

No one really knows yet how much the ban has cost the industry, but it's generally agreed it will be in the millions of dollars. And as Peter Darnell, the president of the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Association and a mussel grower, says, "P.E.I. was the hardest hit."

Darnell is quick to point out, however, that Nova Scotia producers did have problems because they lost their Christmas markets. "Take my own case as an example. We had five or six weeks with no sales, so it was a short-term cash flow problem." He says a lot of N.S. growers don't market in the winter so the ban didn't really cost them as much as it could have.

Jim Jenkins, the acting area director for DFO on the Island, says most of the people who fish for oysters and clams do not have lucrative lobster licenses, so they

depend on the shellfish to make a living. He also says the cultured mussel industry on the Island was just coming into its own after several years of struggling to get established. "Island mussel growers were expecting to ship in excess of three million pounds, and 60 to 70 per cent of that production would come from the eastern end of the province."

Jenkins also has a word of caution. "The term shellfish refers to molluscs — clams, oysters and mussels. Many people, in error, call lobsters, crabs and shrimp shellfish. They are not shellfish, they're crustaceans."



JOHN GRACEY

The ban cost one grower more than \$100,000

Wayne Somers, of the Atlantic Mussel Growers' Co-op in Murray River, estimates that the ban has cost just two Island businesses a minimum of \$100,000 a week. He says it will be impossible for Island growers to get out of the hole this year because it's too late for them to ship a lot of their mussels. Growers are really suffering, says Somers; they can't get money, they have no income and they have terrific debt loads. He's worried about growers being able to get operating lines of credit for this year's operating expenses.

Bill Warren, the present head of the P.E.I. Oystermen's Association, says the government's action has cost Island oystermen a half million dollars. He says the federal government is responsible for the loss and he wants compensation. "We have been crucified and hung out to dry."

Warren also says that to his knowledge, no one has ever gotten sick from eating a P.E.I. oyster because of the toxin that hit mussels. He believes there was no need for the government to include other molluscs in the ban. "If the toxin has been

found in oysters then we would take our lumps right along with the mussel growers," he says.

The Island's Minister of Fisheries, Ross (Johnny) Young, supports the oystermen. Young says the federal government is fully to blame for the damage done to the oyster industry and he wants Ottawa to do something about it.


One big concern of many people is the testing procedure used to catch the type of problem that hit P.E.I. mussels. They say it has to be improved. Wayne Somers says it's imperative that a way of testing mussels be developed so that the problem can never happen again. And it was very important that consumers have confidence in the testing procedure.

Darnell agrees, and he wants to call mussel growers from all four provinces together to discuss ways they can become more involved in the testing — even if it means they have to pay for it. Darnell also says DFO has to commit more money to inspection. "But somehow, I don't think that's going to happen." He is also concerned about the length of time it takes to get test results. "We still don't have results from tests DFO took weeks ago," he says. One P.E.I. biologist says it took nine weeks to get test results.

As the ban is slowly being lifted, people are turning their attention to what has been done to get the industry back on its feet. Somers says he can't understand why there hasn't been a concrete response for help from the government. "What the whole answer is, I don't know," he says. "But I want to see low, or no interest loans until we're back on our feet."

Young says his department will do everything it can to help the troubled industry, but he is waiting for a study that's being done by a team of accountants to determine just what the difficulties are and how much and what kind of financing is needed. Young says that once the study results are in he intends to use information to pressure the federal government for assistance.

Many growers say consumer confidence is still there. Peter Darnell says that unfortunately, P.E.I.'s misfortune opened the door for Nova Scotia. (The ban on most molluscs was lifted in that province in early January.) "Sales have been overwhelming," he says. "We've been harvesting every day and we can't meet the demand."

Irwin Judson is an aquaculture specialist with the P.E.I. department of fisheries and he was one of the first to become involved in mussel culture on the Island back in 1975. He says the problem was serious, but is confident that the industry will recover. "I don't think there will be any difficulty with our mussels once they get back on the shelves," he says. "Our mussels have always had an excellent reputation for quality." 



WAYNE CHASE

Winterproofing our cities

A Moncton architect advises enclosed walkways, solar orientation, colonnades and evergreens to dull winter's bite

by Carol McLeod

Winter in Atlantic Canada is like a relative you'd rather avoid but can't. It comes early, leaves late and is a nuisance during its entire stay. Yet Moncton architect Pierre Gallant believes the aggravation could be reduced if a little more imagination were shown in adapting urban planning to winter conditions. "The walkway bridges connecting buildings in downtown Saint John and Halifax are a step in the right direction," he says. "Not only do they offer climate control and tie blocks together, they also maximize the value, density and use of the buildings they join."

But Gallant feels walkway bridges are only one way of making winter more endurable. A vice-president of the Liveable Winter City Association, he envisions glass-enclosed sidewalks that protect pedestrians from snow and ice. He also advocates orienting housing developments east to west so that the elevation facing south lets in the sun through as many energy efficient windows as possible, while the one to the north shuts out the wind with reinforced walls.

Such ideas are in keeping with the LWCA's objective of convincing the estimated 600 million people living in cities and towns generally located above the 45th parallel in over 30 countries around the world to adapt their communities to the climate.

Right now the concept of making cities more liveable in winter is in the pioneering stage in Atlantic Canada. Some developers in the region have considered orienting subdivisions east to west and a few communities have looked at enclosing downtown areas under plexiglass. But so far, says Gallant, few — if any — have carried through on the ideas.

"Nobody wants to be an innovator and that's unfortunate. For too long, architects, designers and planners have imagined their projects as they look in summer with green lawns and trees and blue sky and water and people strolling about on paths. Now we have to start thinking of what our projects will look like in winter with snowbanks and slush and ice."

He feels one reason more isn't being done to adapt the region's towns and cities to winter is that the pace of development here and the amount spent on construction lag behind the rest of Canada as well as behind Japan and Europe. Another reason is the fact that most people here aren't used to the idea that there are ways of lessening winter's sting.

In Sapporo, Japan, for instance, crews collect 55,000 tonnes of garbage each month during the summer and burn it in winter to heat swimming pools and greenhouses. The city also uses electric heating pads on its sidewalks to melt ice and snow.

In Scandinavia, streets with row housing facing row housing have been

enclosed under glass, allowing people to enjoy their front yards year round.

Closer to home, Calgary has constructed a partially enclosed park one block in area, while Montreal has developed a so-called "underground city" by linking together subway stations, office buildings and retail centres.

Implementing even the most modest of these ideas in Atlantic Canada would certainly help dull winter's punch. Every year the region is hit by an average 11 storms of more than 10 centimetres snowfall each. By the end of February 1987, Moncton had dug out from under 340 cm.

Where radical change is too costly to bring about, less expensive steps can be taken to reduce the psychological, and to some extent, the physical impact of winter in the Atlantic Provinces, says the New Brunswick architect. Developers can position buildings to provide shelter for pedestrians and use coniferous rather than deciduous trees to provide year-round greenery and protection from the wind.

Although such adaptations are not going to send old man winter off in a huff, they might just teach him a lesson in humility. Certainly it's a lesson he could use. With winters as severe as they are in the Atlantic Provinces, Gallant doubts the predicted greenhouse effect — the raising of world temperatures by a build-up in the atmosphere of gases from burning fossil fuels — will sound the death knell for the work of the Liveable Winter City Association. "Even if scientists are right," he says, "and it does become a couple of degrees warmer in winter, we're still going to get snow and plenty of it. It's snow we have to start planning our cities around."

Putting the clocks ahead in Nfld. or turning back time?

Newfoundlanders will have to wait until October to voice their feelings about a time change that many say will be disastrous

by Margot Bruce

The Newfoundland government's decision to put clocks ahead two hours the first Sunday in April means the province will have to alter schedules, business practices and lifestyles. In a province whose time difference has always been the basis of jokes and songs, the move to double daylight saving isn't getting too many laughs.

Early in 1987 the department of culture, recreation and youth released a green paper on daylight time and the minister, Bill Matthews, asked for public response to the various scenarios outlined.

"Overall the response to the green paper was described as a disaster; only 173 people signed letters concerning the paper," says Bill Frost, assistant deputy minister of the department's cultural affairs, resources and youth divisions.

"For years government has never ceased getting letters and phone calls from people suggesting our time zone be changed and government decided to finally take the bull by the horns and give it a try for a summer."

According to Bruce Tilley, general manager of the St. John's Board of Trade, the business organization was against the idea from the beginning. "It is going to have a negative effect on business. Take, for example, oil companies dealing with Calgary during the day. It will almost be impossible. Or us dealing with Ottawa: we have to wait until 11 a.m. now for them to settle in before we call. With double daylight saving that will be noon. The day will be over before anyone can get back to us. In our initial proposal the Board was against double daylight, but in government's opinion it wasn't significant."

Frost says he's heard from business people who say they'll save a fortune with it because they can make all their long distance calls after 6 p.m. at reduced rates.

One group of people who don't see any advantages to the arrangement are the mayors of Labrador. Most of Labrador, including the bigger centres of Labrador City, Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Wabush are on Atlantic Standard Time. When they put their clocks ahead in April they'll be one hour ahead of Atlantic Time, and still half an hour behind

island time. This puts them in their own time zone.

"We can't see any benefit from the change," says Hank Shouse, mayor of Happy Valley-Goose Bay. "We don't need the extra daylight, in midsummer we have the sun up until 11 p.m. anyway. Now with double daylight time it will be up until midnight and that's not going to help the family situation at all."



Bill Frost: double daylight saving in April

The mayors of Labrador City, Wabush and Happy Valley-Goose Bay have all voted in their council meetings against the time change because of the negative effects it will have on business, television schedules and children's school schedules. Shouse says they are firm in their stand and until council changes the motion they are against the time change. They have appealed to the premier, but have received no response.

Frost says it's not a matter of choice for Labrador. They can choose to adopt Newfoundland Standard Time and then set their clocks ahead two and a half hours to put them in step with the island, or they can just put their clocks ahead two hours and be half an hour behind the island, but they definitely have to adopt double daylight. The one year trial is law and he says they can't live in a different time zone — even though adopting double daylight without going to Newfoundland Standard Time will put them in a time

zone of their own. He adds that airlines and Marine Atlantic will be operating on double daylight time in Labrador.

Newfoundlanders are used to hearing the world will end at 12 — 12:30 in Newfoundland. Even more common are promos for upcoming national radio and television shows which say the show will air at 8 p.m. — 8:30 in Newfoundland.

Double daylight time will mean hockey games and live events from the west coast or the United States will now be starting as late as 11:30 p.m. With the NHL playoffs coming up, sports fans are upset. Local television news producers don't like the move because they are covering events happening in Ottawa, Toronto and New York, and now they'll have less time to do so. They think the quality of local newscasts will suffer.

Regular programming will be an hour later putting children's programming on too late for schoolchildren, and popular shows like *St. Elsewhere* and *L.A. Law* will begin at 12:30 p.m.

Frost says in the summer most people don't bother watching television because of other activities and reruns, and with the popularity of video cassette recorders, people can tape their favourite shows if they're on too late.

"When the honourable Bill Matthews announced the time changes in December, he said if people should like to continue on double daylight time, that it's possible this province would ask the major networks to broadcast earlier to Newfoundland," explains Frost.

Parents fear children will be waiting for schoolbuses in the dark of the morning and be up late at night because of the brightness. With final exams around the corner some fear it will be hard to settle down and study at night.

Others say the whole idea is somehow tied into the Sprung greenhouse facility. People think it will mean less money spent on artificial lights and more profits for the Newfoundland Enviroponics, a company partially owned by the Newfoundland government.

Frost laughs at such a suggestion, saying changing the clocks will not alter the number of daylight hours in the province, it will only change the way they are utilized by people.

"I think a lot of people who have resistance to it right now will find after they try it that it's quite good," says Frost.

The new minister of culture, recreation and youth, John Butt, is standing firm on the decision made by his predecessor. The one year trial of double daylight time will begin April 3 and end Oct. 30. After that it will be assessed and a decision on whether the practice should be continued will be made.

It is likely he'll hear from more than 173 people when it's time to assess double daylight time in October.



ALBERT LEE

Thompson: winning her landmark case raised questions about women's rights in general

Women looking for answers

Since the Thompson case brought the plight of social assistance recipients out of the closet, women are asking questions

by Maggie Brown

Brenda Thompson's name became a household word when she took then minister of social services, Edmund Morris, to court and won. Morris was found guilty of violating Nova Scotia's freedom of information act by releasing confidential details from Thompson's social services files. But the case, which began when the Dartmouth woman wrote an article in a Halifax daily criticizing the welfare system, did more than bring welfare issues out of the closet. It also raised questions with many Nova Scotia women about their rights and it became a motivating factor for women's groups who are looking for some answers.

Women in Nova Scotia are angry.

Jeanne Faye, a lawyer at Dalhousie Legal Aid, was one of the people these women asked to help them sort through all the rules, regulations and criteria. "There are two very separate and distinct systems that don't work together," says Faye of Nova Scotia's two-tiered system. Provincial assistance (Family Benefits) is long-term assistance that covers food, clothing, shelter and transportation. Family Benefits rates are generally higher than municipal rates, but the eligibility criteria are much more flexible for municipal assistance.

The women who are meeting on these issues want the pressure that was put on the government by the Thompson-Morris

case to continue to escalate until the system is forced to change.

There is no shortage of issues to deal with. Katherine Reed, a student and single mother with two children, is living on provincial Family Benefits and municipal assistance in Antigonish. Juggling a full course load in a music degree program and raising her children on what she calls "wholly inadequate funds" has taken its toll. Because her worker thinks she is ambitious, Reed enjoys special privileges like dental care. Next year, however, she plans to take a year off and spend some much needed time with her children. She's afraid her worker will decide she doesn't deserve any special assistance and take away those privileges.

Most women on provincial social assistance aren't so lucky. In order to receive dental care, women must prove "need" to their municipal budget officer. The definition of "need" changes from place to place, even worker to worker. There are 29 policies in 66 different municipalities in Nova Scotia and the interpretation of the policy is left to the budget officer's discretion.

Rhonda Brennan of Wolfville, who says she's had terrible toothaches for over four months, can't get any money for dental care.

Brennan also has a disabled child who she has just learned is not eligible for a disabled person's drug card until he is 18.

Family Benefits reserves the right to cut off assistance if they suspect a woman of receiving money from an outside source. Faye says, "the Family Benefits department does great violence to women in these cases." Unlike the justice system, where a person is innocent until proven guilty, a woman on social assistance is guilty until she proves herself innocent.

Faye says any incident, from a brother babysitting the kids to the presence of a car in the driveway overnight, could be misinterpreted by a neighbour as cohabitation. "It is assumed that if a woman is seeing a man, he has an obligation to support her," she says.


Reed says this contributes to the "ghettoization of women" in the system. This discrimination begins from the moment a woman applies for assistance. When applying, a woman must "bring any court action" against someone who may be liable to support her and her child. She must give the name and whereabouts of the father, and if she doesn't know who the father is or where he can be found, benefits may be delayed or refused.

Ex-spouses often either fail to show up for their court dates, or forget to bring a lawyer, resulting in numerous court appearances. In one infamous case in Halifax, a woman was in court 83 times in two years.

Brenda Thompson's article exposed the Nova Scotia system.

"The working class hates people on welfare, and you can't blame them," she says of the negative responses she has encountered. She says the stereotype of a woman sitting at home watching television all day, neglecting her children and living off the state without remorse is far from the reality of these women's lives.

Some women living on social assistance retain less than \$200 a month after paying rent and utilities. That money is used for feeding and clothing herself and her children, paying for transportation, and other necessities like household supplies and over the counter drugs. None of them are happy. "When you're on welfare, you're under house arrest. You're supposed to be miserable," Thompson says.

There are, however, extensive networks of mothers on welfare who hand down children's clothing, lend food and money when someone is in dire need, and help each other to learn more about the system. Brennan is a member of Helping Other Women (HOW), a group in the Valley, and there is a similar group in New Glasgow called Taking Control/Making Changes. Faye says that with these kinds of organized groups and workshops across Nova Scotia women on social assistance are going to start making things happen. 

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Teresa MacNeil: doing things together

Despite the contradiction, Devco's interim president thinks it's possible to combine the philosophies of Father Moses Coady with the business wranglings of the Cape Breton crown corporation



OWEN FITZGERALD

What was it we were going to do together, and how are we doing at it?" That's the voice of Dr. Teresa MacNeil, who "belongs to Johnstown," as they say down home in Cape Breton — but who also belongs to a few other things. She is head of the extension department at St. Francis Xavier University, vice-chair of Enterprise Cape Breton and national president of the Canadian Association for Adult Education.

Probably most important of all, she is chairperson and interim president of the Cape Breton Development Corporation — Devco — the federal Crown corporation which operates Cape Breton's coal mines. With sales of \$184 million last year and a workforce of 3,500, Devco is

Cape Breton's economic backbone, the largest industrial corporation east of Montreal. It was designed to self-destruct: established in 1967, Devco was supposed to create alternative jobs for redundant miners, and close the mines forever. Instead, OPEC's oil price increases made coal an attractive fuel again, and Devco has been opening mines, not closing them.

In addition, Devco's wide responsibilities for economic development touch almost every aspect of Cape Breton's economic life — tourist promotion, agriculture, forestry, fishing, manufacturing. Devco has become, in effect, the government of Cape Breton — making Teresa MacNeil, as one observer puts it, the Governor of Cape Breton Island, and arguably, the most influential woman in Atlantic Canada.

She is certainly one of the busiest.

"I'm surprised at how heavy the workload has been," she concedes. "It's more than I can hardly believe — and yet it's not really overwhelming. It's just always *there*."

Consider the shape of one recent week. Monday morning she drove from her home in Bayfield, near Antigonish, for a round of Devco and Enterprise Cape Breton meetings in Sydney. Late that afternoon she flew to Toronto, where Devco is seeking advice and assistance in marketing a new coal product called carbogel. Tuesday evening she flew back to Halifax, and Wednesday morning drove to Antigonish where she spent the day on extension department business.

That night she slept in the serene, leafy, passive-solar home she and her husband built, overlooking the beaches of Northumberland Strait. (Luke Batdorf, alas, was not home that night. A one-time

Lutheran minister, now a specialist in organizational development and adult education, Batdorf teaches at St. F.X., too. But he's also currently president of Laubach Literacy of Canada, and he was in Montreal that evening, attending meetings of his own.)

Thursday morning Teresa rose at 5 a.m. and drove from Bayfield to Glace Bay in time for an 8:30 a.m. Devco management committee meeting, followed by a meeting of the Community Affairs Committee of Enterprise Cape Breton. Then she caught a plane to Montreal, to attend an evening fundraiser for the Canadian Association for Adult Education — and touch base with her husband.

She spent Friday in Ottawa discussing Devco's plans for coal mine development with federal officials, but she left the capital at 5 p.m. for another CAAE fundraising affair in Toronto. By Sunday morning she would be flying back to Halifax, looking forward to an afternoon and evening at home.

At each of the various boardroom tables, Teresa MacNeil would ask the same questions, one way or another. What is the job we're doing, and what tools do we need to do it? Do we have them? How will we get them? Are we making progress?

"What are we doing together, and how are we doing at it?"

Teresa MacNeil did not set out to be a hard-travelling corporate heavyweight; indeed, she set out to oppose corporate muscle with the gospel of continuing education, co-operation and community self-help. Her father, Joe H. MacNeil, was a farmer and a bus driver who also operated Johnstown's general store and gas station. Her mother, Elizabeth MacAdam, was a devoted church worker, a



OWEN FITZGERALD

These days Devco is solely a coal company



Teresa MacNeil's background is in self-help and the co-operative movement, philosophies she brings to the corporate boardroom

ALBERT LEE

founder of the Women's Institute in Richmond County, and a Richmond County councillor.

"Our father supported every co-op venture started in our area," remembers Teresa's brother, Michael MacNeil. "We grew up as credit union members." Teresa agrees: all the MacNeil children, she says, have "a tremendous need to be in some line of service. It's in the bone. Growing up in Johnstown, the co-op ethic was just part of the way you lived."

In fact, most of the MacNeils are in the service professions. Michael managed Johnstown Credit Union for many years before moving on to become vice-principal of Sydney's Adult Vocational Training Centre. Eleanor is a nursing supervisor in Sydney, Donald works with the Nova Scotia Power Corporation's alcohol and drug abuse program, Mary is a school principal in Calgary, and Elizabeth works in Elliot Lake, Ontario.

Teresa, meanwhile, went to St. Francis Xavier University, where she took her first degree — in home economics — in 1957. The university, of course, is famous for the extension department established by Father Moses Coady, whose passionate advocacy of self-help through education and co-operative organization created co-ops and credit unions throughout the Maritimes, particularly in eastern Nova Scotia. After graduation, MacNeil spent a year working with the New-

foundland Department of Agriculture, then joined the extension department's Sydney office.

As an extension fieldworker, MacNeil found herself involved with the co-operative movement, health care problems and consumer issues. She and Father William Roach supervised the television program *The People's School*. She continued to study, too, completing her Master's degree in 1964 and her Ph.D. in 1970, both from the University of Wisconsin. By 1978 she was professor of adult education, and in 1982 she became head of the extension department — the first woman, and the first lay person, ever to hold that position.

Then, in May, 1985, out of the blue, she had a call from Ottawa. The minister of regional industrial expansion, the Honourable Sinclair Stevens, wanted to talk to her. In concert with Nova Scotia premier John Buchanan, Stevens had decided to establish a blue-ribbon committee to review the options for Cape Breton's economic development and to make long-term policy recommendations. The committee would include people with various backgrounds — labour figures, corporate lawyers, academics, business people. Would MacNeil chair it?

She would. After several months of hearings and research, her committee recommended, among other things, that a single agency be created to take over as

many as possible of the diverse economic assistance programs which had been developed over the years. The new super-agency — to be called Enterprise Cape Breton — would make it substantially easier for business people to find programs suited to their needs: one-stop shopping for development assistance.

The recommendation was implemented — and Enterprise Cape Breton was born, with Teresa MacNeil as vice-chairperson. But no existing agencies volunteered to commit suicide, and ECB became a co-ordinating agency — an *additional* player in the Cape Breton development game. In the meantime, Devco had been through a profound shake-up under the leadership of Joe Shannon. Having completed his restructuring, Shannon resigned and returned to his own varied business interests — and Teresa MacNeil was named to replace him.

Her original mandate at Devco actually had little to do with the coal-mining side of the company. Derek Rance, Devco's president until last fall, was a thoroughly experienced coal mining officer; the understanding was that Rance was to operate the mines, while Teresa MacNeil would oversee the work of the Industrial Development Division, and would speak in public on the Corporation's behalf.

However, Rance had been appointed



ALBERT LEE

Devco and the government have gained credibility from Teresa MacNeil's sincerity, intelligence and commitment to ordinary people

well before MacNeil, and had already positioned himself before she arrived. Despite the fact that his lack of diplomacy caused him trouble from the outset, he strongly resisted any attempts to restrict his public comments or his freedom of action. Ultimately, insiders say, he lifted off into an orbit of his own, quite beyond the control and guidance of Devco's board.

Last October, Rance kicked up another controversy by insisting that Devco would stockpile coal at Whitney Pier, despite the possibility of coal dust polluting the atmosphere. When Pier residents complained, Rance replied that the local air quality was already terrible; a little more pollution couldn't matter much. An enraged John Buchanan demanded Rance's already teetering head, and it fell. But someone had to operate the coal company, and Teresa MacNeil quietly took charge, serving as interim president until a new permanent president could be appointed.

This sequence of senior appointments has surprised the business community — and surprised Teresa MacNeil too. Politically, she seems an odd choice for such senior Crown and corporate responsibilities. In Johnstown, Joe H. MacNeil's family was considered Liberal, and the whole thrust of the extension department has always been left-leaning, oriented

towards community-based, co-operative enterprises, while the federal Tories remain deeply committed to the profit-making principle. As one Sydney business owner puts it, Teresa MacNeil is "almost the antithesis of what the Mulroney government says it's all about."

MacNeil herself says she has "really no trouble" working with the Tories, in large part because she "is doing work that has to do with development" and with community involvement in the development process — which is exactly what the St. F.X. extension department has always been about.

Meanwhile Devco — and the government — have certainly gained credibility from Teresa MacNeil's sincerity and intelligence, from her commitment to the welfare of ordinary people. She's also famous for her appetite for work and her willingness to listen. Her brother is particularly impressed by her constant contact with the people she serves.

"You'd be amazed at the number of speaking engagements," says Michael MacNeil. "Most of the time she has two speaking engagements a week. She might speak with the Board of Trade in Halifax one night, a group of Iona firemen another night, and at a graduation another time. She's always maintaining contact with people."

But do sincerity, honesty and energy

necessarily add up to effectiveness? Given Teresa MacNeil's lack of previous corporate experience, can she give Devco the leadership it needs?

And can she do justice to *two* such demanding jobs?

On that large question, the jury is still out. Her commitments at Devco and ECB, for instance, have caused rumblings of real concern about the direction — or lack of direction — of the extension department.

"She has far too much on her plate," says one colleague flatly. "And things suffer, because they simply don't get the attention they deserve. She has to rely on other people to cover for her — and often they do, but sometimes they don't."

Others say her very rational and dispassionate approach to problems is itself a problem. "She tends to think that once you've explained the situation rationally, everyone will understand and they'll just go ahead and do the reasonable thing," says one of her associates. "And if you resist her view of it, but you can't give a fully-developed rational argument, then you're being irrational and you've got an emotional problem. That can be pretty hard to take, sometimes."

Hearing this, MacNeil smiles wryly and says, "I think there's a lot of truth in that. I do tend to feel that if I've explained it, and they can't see it, then there's

something wrong with *them*." And, she says, inexperience has indeed caused her some genuine problems on the corporate side.

"In a job like the one at Devco, there's a lot of learning — remembering details, coming to understand the significance of numbers and timing. The first time they say, 'We have to have this number calculated by such-and-such a date in order to do so-and-so' you just hear the words. Then you see what happens in practice — and the *next* time you really understand that it matters.

"I'm also embarrassed, sometimes, not to have the answers to really ordinary questions — not to know things that I feel a Board chairman really should know, like last year's production at the Prince Mine or something like that.

"But I have a good rapport with people, including staff people, and in the end I'm really more interested in who gets consulted about which questions, or what the communities we serve think our priorities should be.

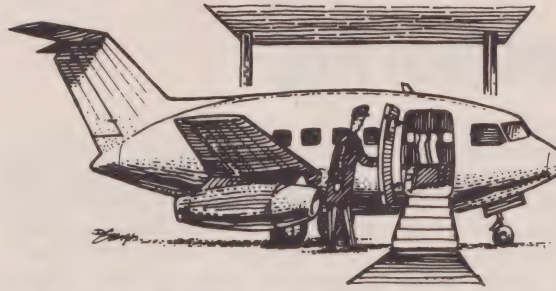
"The biggest worry of all for me is safety in the mines. You know, there are a thousand men working at Lingan — and you hear the stories about what goes on and what doesn't go on, and you just worry. I don't think we've taken safety nearly seriously enough, in general, and I'm happy that our management is putting a lot of emphasis on safety. But it's really not something that can be imposed by management alone. It's got to be an outlook and an attitude that everyone shares, and it takes time to get that attitude entrenched in everyone's mind."

The coal mines, in fact, have become MacNeil's main preoccupation. Last fall, when it appeared that Devco's industrial development division was about to be swallowed by the new Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Cape Bretoners protested lustily. In response, the federal government turned the division into a new Crown corporation named Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation ("not to be confused with the Board or programs of Enterprise Cape Breton," chirped a press release.) But the president of the new corporation will be ACOA president Donald MacPhail, and the responsible minister, Senator Lowell Murray, will name an all-new Board. Teresa MacNeil remains chairperson of Devco, but Devco's industrial development responsibilities have all gone away. MacNeil chairs a coal company, pure and simple.

That's not as odd as it once seemed. Teresa MacNeil has learned that managers do much the same thing in any venture. Her particular strengths are problem-solving, planning and communicating with people — and those are the things she does everywhere: at Devco, at Enterprise Cape Breton, at the university, at the CAAE. She comes into the meeting, and asks the question.

"What is it we're doing together, and how are we getting along with it?" ☒

LOOKING FOR THE HOTEL AND MEETING CENTER CLOSE TO THE HALIFAX AIRPORT?

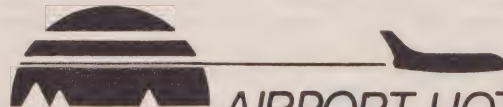


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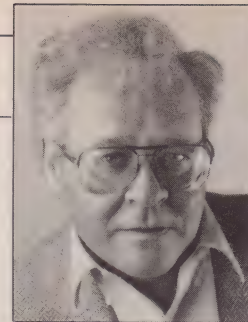
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Canada's not boring

Canada endures the kind of insults promoters of tourism dread. In *The Economist*, for instance, one Dimitri Goulandris, writing from the perspective of a guy who's never set foot in Canada, confidently names it the second-dullest nation in the world. With respect to "the yawn-factor" — which is "the degree to which, despite all its many virtues, a country may be irredeemably boring" — only Singapore is worse than Canada. India, Mexico, Brazil and China get top marks as places where a visitor might have "a very interesting time," and Zimbabwe, Iran and Libya are all far more exciting than sedate, old Canada.

For Canadians with a healthy pride in their own country, Donald Mackay says in Montreal's *The Gazette*, "living in England can be disconcerting ... The trendy 'colonial' these days is apt to be the exotic, extroverted Australian. There are few Canadian books in the shops and not much news from Canada amid the columns of tidings from the United States." In England, Mackay says, Canada ranks somewhere down with Norway for sex appeal, and "The country that used to take pride in being England's oldest colony, supplying the Old Country with most of its wood and wheat and some of its keenest soldiers, has made a curiously muted impact on the collective psyche of the stay-at-home English."

If insults and indifference from Britain are bad, sneers from the U.S. are worse. Many of these are on the lips of Canadians who've taken jobs down there, and remain unhampered by excessive loyalty to their homeland. Sean Kelly, for instance, is a Canadian who gained some fame as an editor of *National Lampoon*, and in a new book called *Nicknames* he suggests the nicknames of Canadian hockey players are so mundane they prove Canadians are "naturally unimaginative." Since most NHL players perform before American fans and the American media, how come Kelly knocks Canada for the nicknames? It's fashionable to knock Canada, that's why. The idea that Canadians are boring has joined all those stupid generalizations about other peoples: the French are amorous, the English cold, the Irish belligerent, the Scots tight-fisted, the Germans efficient, the Russians gloomy, the Swiss humourless, the Italians excitable, the Poles fit only for Polish jokes, and the Canadians boring.

Spy magazine, out of New York, describes Canadians as a people so polite they thank their bank machines, so sober

their favourite drink is milk, so lacking in style they wear sensible shoes with round toes and crepe soles, so security-conscious they ask potential employers about pension plans before asking about starting salaries, and so thrifty their savings accounts outnumber them by 6.8 million. *Spy* pretends to fear Canadians are taking over the U.S.: "They will sap our strength through interminable conversations about distances between cities, undermine our aggressiveness through relentless courtesy." The invasion will be tedious, "the way Canadians do everything."

The co-editor of *Spy* is E. Graydon Carter, a Canadian who wrote speeches for a certain Pierre Trudeau. I wonder if

Spy magazine says Canadians are so polite they thank their bank machines

he wrote the one in which Trudeau said, "Canadians by and large tend to think of Canada as a land of immense potential. Not just as a big land, which it unquestionably is. Or a privileged land, as many others enviously regard us. But as a land of limitless promise. A land perhaps, on the threshold of greatness."

This is not the Canada that expatriate Canadian journalists know. Ari Z. Posner, an ex-Montrealer, works for *The New Republic* in Washington, D.C., and he writes, "Let me rise to the occasion and assert that outsiders have no idea how really boring Canada can be."

But earlier in this century, "Silent" Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover achieved what many Canadians thought was impossible: they were so boring that, in retrospect, they actually managed to make Prime Minister Mackenzie King look interesting. Moreover, if Posner really believes Gerald Ford is less boring than Pierre Trudeau, he's been in

Washington too long. Since everyone loves a whiff of sleaze from high places, the gang who launched the Irangate farce briefly disguised the fact that the only thing that's even remotely interesting about Ronald Reagan is the number of times he contradicts himself. Even that's only about as intriguing as watching a plank warp; by comparison to Reagan, the unctuous Brian Mulroney is actually stimulating.

The Americans have managed to turn what was once their most exciting political event, the national leadership convention, into TV fodder, into a monumental, prime-time bore. At the moment, neither the Republicans nor the Democrats have come up with even one presidential candidate who has much more charisma than the Common Toad. Yet here's this Canadian boy who's made it to the Big Time, a weekly with a Washington address, and he looks north and pronounces our politics boring.

Britain, the U.S., and Canada, too, once saw Canada as a bridge between the two greatest English-speaking powers, and at banquets in London and Washington, Americans and Britishers commended our country for helping them get along with one another. Now, however, it serves as their common target of ridicule; it gives them something they can agree on.

The most interesting thing about media reaction to the recent insults from Britain and the U.S. was that the most outraged Canadians were former Brits and Yanks who'd abandoned their homelands for better lives here. For instance, Basil Deakin, an English-born journalist who's been writing for the Halifax Herald papers for decades, found it particularly annoying that *The Economist's* Goulandris had never even seen "the world's 'second-dullest' country, the one whose dreary certainties, unexciting security, and civilized good fellowship I for one opted for in preference to permanent residence in more exciting places such as the United Kingdom, East Africa, India, or China ... It is not Canada that makes me yawn. It's the patronizing drivel uttered by such ignoramuses as Dimitri Goulandris."

Good on you, Basil. Canadians are the luckiest people on earth. Goulandris doesn't know what he's missing, and neither do any of the others who use "boring" to describe this huge, cosmopolitan, and amazingly beautiful country. They're parochial twits, and they should go suck an egg.

H·O·M·E·S

ATLANTIC HOMES

Landscaping for our climate

Landscape architects from around the region share tips on planning, planting and paving your way to the perfect yard

by Charmaine Gaudet

It's Saturday morning, and the local plant nursery teems with homeowners looking for a quick yard fix. Mr. Jones spies a sale on rhododendrons, and picks one up for the front of his cottage lot. Mr. and Mrs. Smith cart away a couple of knee-high Pfitzer junipers for the postage-stamp space between their downtown home and the sidewalk. But their satisfaction may be short-lived. Parched by the sun and the unrelenting ocean winds that sweep across Mr. Jones' open shorefront lot, the rhododendron may not bloom the following spring — and a few years down the road, the Smiths' junipers will mushroom into giants with two-metre spreads.

According to Charlottetown landscape architect Ernie Morello, "A pretty common problem — I'd say with up to 75 per cent of the plant material sold — is that residents don't know much about what they're buying. It's not so much that the nursery people don't inform, but that homeowners don't think to ask."

Fredericton landscape architect Daniel Glenn holds the same view. The time to begin planning your yard, says Glenn, should start long before you step inside the nursery — or, for that matter, the building supply store for your paving bricks or wooden decking. "The big challenge is for homeowners to come up with an overall direction or theme — a plan that incorporates a list of activities and functions they want their yard to fulfil."

Homegardening and landscape books abound with information on plants suitable for your needs and climate, and on "hard landscape" materials like walkways, patios and decks. They also illustrate what landscape architects call a "master plan" or "site plan" — basically, a blueprint tying in all the elements of a residential landscape — trees, shrubs, flower beds, vegetable gardens, patios, decks, driveways,

walkways, privacy screens, play areas, utility sheds, etc.

Plans are highly individual. Yet many people adopt them, detail for detail, from magazines and landscaping books. "The advantage of the magazine plan is that it offers an integrated approach and demonstrates the value of thinking about the yard as a whole," says Halifax landscape architect Cary Vollick. "The problem is, even with a plan that seems to suit your particular lot and needs, you can get

plants and hard materials that aren't appropriate for our climate."

To come up with the landscape plan that's right for you and where you live, you've got to determine three things: what you've got, what you want, and how you're going to achieve it.

Start by making a measured drawing of your yard, incorporating all fixed elements like the dimensions of your home, existing trees, shrubs and flower beds, driveways, sheds, etc. Also mark other important information related to your site: the direction and angle of the morning, noon and afternoon sun, the direction of prevailing winter winds, proximity to the street (or other noisy or busy areas), and views you want to preserve or block.

Also know your soil conditions. While generally, soil in Atlantic Canada tends



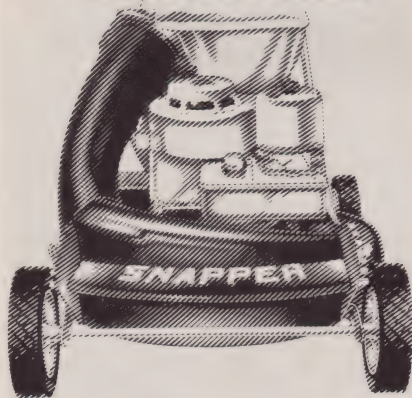
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ATLANTIC HOMES



ALEX WILSON

Cut the lawn well back from shrubs and trees

to be acidic, it can vary dramatically from area to area and yard to yard.

Gordon Ratcliffe, a Halifax landscape architect and president of the Atlantic Provinces Association of Landscape Architects (APALA) advises, "Treat everything on your lot as a potential resource. Avoid the 'bulldozer mentality' of clearing all the trees and shrubs, then spending a lot of money to put them back."

Once you've determined what you've got, compile a "wish list" of what you want: a bigger driveway? a vegetable garden? more privacy from the street? a play space for the kids? a deck or patio for outdoor entertaining? more shrubs and trees? a discreet area for the compost bin? Then balance each against the realities of your lifestyle and budget.

St. John's landscape architect Fred Hann notes that when he is consulted by homeowner clients, "I ask them about their wishes, their likes and dislikes, their habits, etc. I ask them about the types of gardens they had as children, and about gardens they've seen that they particularly like. I ask them to cut things out of magazines too. Then, I might say, yes, that's nice but that garden would cost \$50,000 — or it may require a lot of maintenance they might not be prepared to do."

Once you've set your priorities, start plotting out your "master plan." Landscape architects advise thinking of your yard as a series of outdoor rooms, or separate spaces that relate to particular activities, as well as to one another. You want to position your vegetable garden for maximum sun exposure, with the compost heap conveniently close by. Some of these "outdoor rooms" relate, in

turn, to your indoor rooms. It makes sense to locate the deck off your kitchen or dining room, just as a play area is most convenient near a back entry porch or "mud room" where kids can peel off dirty shoes and boots. Don't forget to consider views from inside the house too. Ernie Morello suggests, "You might want to pull shrubs and flower beds away from the house so you can enjoy seeing them when you're inside."

Master plan in hand, you're now ready to start putting it into action. Unless you can afford to do everything at once, determine a realistic budget that lets you implement the plan gradually, over a period of a few years. "Start with the big ticket items that will give the most immediate satisfaction, such as decks, fences, etc." advises Fred Hann. "Don't skimp on the cost because you want these items to last. Then introduce, very gradually, those splashes of colour that soften the hard edges of the garden — the trees, shrubs and flower beds."

Hann says you should also plan with an eye to the future. "A garden is an evolving thing. Take young families. The type of garden they want now is completely different from what they will want when the kids are teenagers, or have left home. I try to design play areas so they can evolve into something else. For example, sand boxes can become planters later on."

How much should you plan to spend on landscaping? The general rule of thumb is that 10 to 15 per cent of the value of your home should be outside. This includes the cost of paving the driveway, sodding the lawn, buying and planting shrubs, etc. Halifax landscape architect Cary Vollick says it's a good idea to check with a real estate agent about how much landscaping will add to the value of your home, in your neighbourhood. "Before putting in a \$25,000 pool behind your \$50,000 house, make sure your property value is going to go up at least as much if you resell."

If you do your homework, you'll likely come up with a good, economical landscape plan on your own. But if you need some help — because you have a drainage problem, a difficult site, or you're just plain overwhelmed — consider calling in a landscape architect. Hiring a professional doesn't commit you to thousands of dollars worth of work. "When someone calls me, I can often solve the problem over the phone or just with a visit to the site," says Ernie Morello. For more complex problems, creation of plans or working drawings, inspection of construction, etc., fees are tailored to the needs and budget of the client.

Finally, make sure you install landscape materials properly, particularly plants and hard surface materials like



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ATLANTIC HOMES



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The landscape plan incorporates fixed elements driveways, walkways and patios. Follow planting instructions carefully, and make sure you cut the lawn well back from shrub and tree trunks — a four foot diameter is good — because grass is very competitive for soil nutrients. You can always fill the “saucer” of open soil with bark mulch (to cut down on weeds), and even plant the area with flowers or ground cover. The other common mistake to avoid with trees and shrubs is a too-symmetrical look. If you can only afford four shrubs, don't put one in each corner of the yard, or a pair on either side of the front door. Better to buy three and plant them together in a grouping for a more natural, effective look.

Consult building supply people in your area for instructions on how to install hard landscape materials properly. Frost heave — moisture in the soil freezing and expanding — is a real problem in this climate, but you can minimize its effects by following some basic steps when installing materials like unit paving brick, asphalt or concrete. A good surface begins with a good foundation. The key is to ensure that water has no place to collect on or under the surface. Dig a hole deep enough for a generous layer of free-draining granular base material and for the surface course. Slope the bottom of the hole and the layers of base and levelling bed material the same way.

Merrill Rice, senior sales representative with L.E. Shaw Ltd. of Nova Scotia, which manufactures clay brick and concrete pavers, adds that “another important thing with the pavers is that they must be laid hand-tight together, with as small a joint between as possible — I'd say an eighth of an inch maximum. This avoids the problem of high heels getting caught in between.”

It all boils down to taking the same care with planning your yard as you would your home. The reward is a beautiful, comfortable outdoor environment that enhances your property value and that suits your needs today and 20 years down the road.



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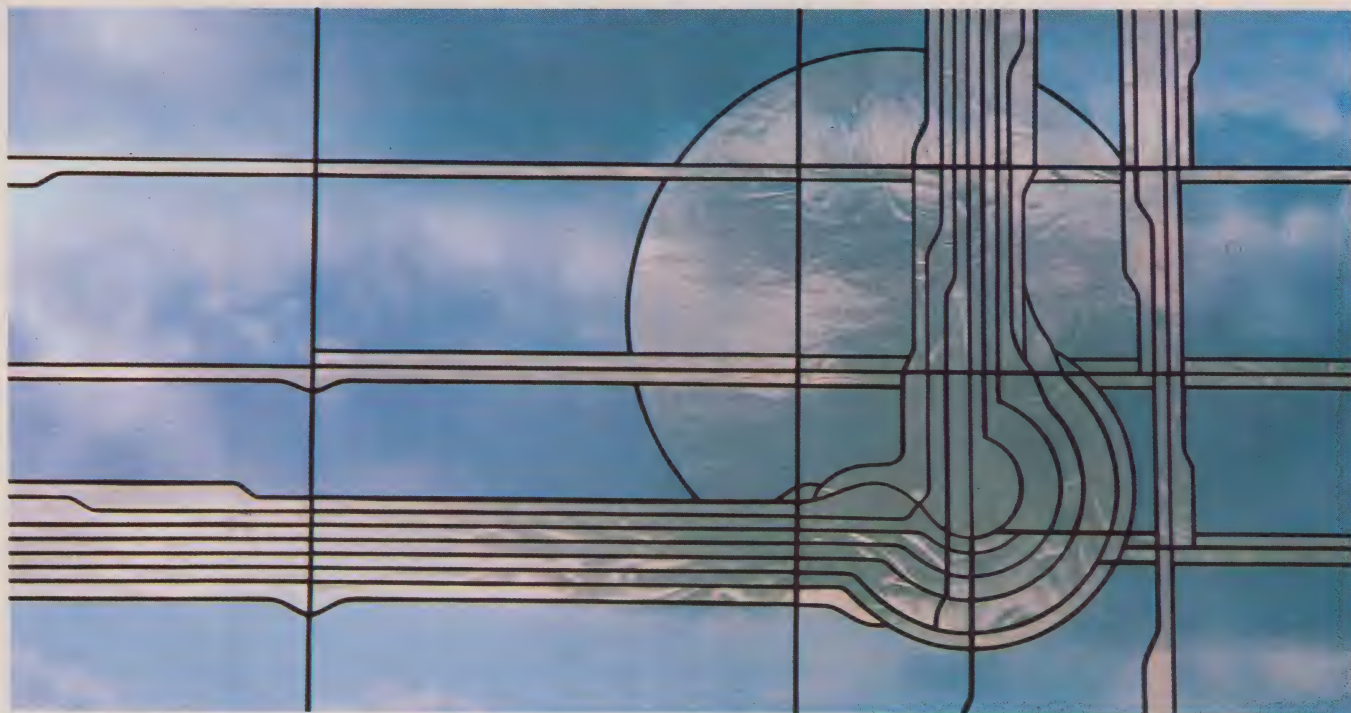
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Glass is a diaphanous curtain to Rejene Stowe, who creates designs that are almost Japanese in simplicity and geometric in detail

'Painting with the lights'

The timeless beauty of stained glass appeals to many people who want to add a little magic to their homes

by Colleen Thompson

Today's homeowners are rediscovering an art form that, with the exception of the Victorian builders, used to be limited to the mansions of the wealthy, the sacred interiors of churches and the hallowed halls of academia. Stained glass has finally found a place inside the ordinary home. What's more, homeowners are using glass designs in many creative ways, blending them into modern surroundings, creating areas of light and colour that often bridge the gap between outdoors and indoors.

The designs being produced by latter-day stained glass artists can fit any contemporary home, and people who have commissioned works of glass seem uncommonly pleased with the results. "It's impossible to be grumpy in the morning in my bathroom," declares Richard Mallory, who peers at himself every morning in a mirror set in a rosy stained glass window over his bathroom sink. "It's more than decorative," comments another owner, who describes her mellow, abstract window as, "spiritual too — sitting near my window is like being bathed in summer sunshine." A third homeowner says of a scenic panel set in a southern alcove of her home, "I feel as if spring is on the way. I can smell the fields and the new leaves even in

deepest winter."

To achieve the serenity that inspires people who live with stained glass windows to wax poetic doesn't mean you have to go with the bright tints of medieval stained glass. Rejene Stowe of Halifax, who is renowned for her luminous glass designs in commercial buildings, is also pleasing homeowners with light and airy additions of bevelled glass combined with French or German opal glass. She likes whites, greys and clear glass with lots of texture. "I think of glass as a diaphanous curtain," says Stowe, who is also experimenting with fine sandblasted designs on glass. "I like to keep it almost Japanese in simplicity, geometric in lyrical detail."

Valerie and Alain Chamagne of Halifax recently commissioned Stowe to design a special "light curtain" for their newly re-done attic which now incorporates a master bedroom, bath and office. "The three panels installed in a formerly dark stairway reflect light from a skylight in the bathroom," explains Valerie. "The glass is bevelled and the design is geometric, diagonal and horizontal with interesting detail." The Chamagnes are pleased with the result and say the constantly changing patterns of light on walls and ceilings through the day are delightful.

Paul Blaney is a stained glass artist in

Saint John. Between the large ecclesiastical commissions that represent most of his work, he enjoys doing residential projects. His suncatchers, door panels, sidelights and windows highlight the homes of people like Richard Mallory, who has put Blaney's talents to good use. "I have an older, basic straight line house," says Mallory, "and I wanted to keep it in character. We had a window on the hall stairwell which was too high to



GORD JOHNSTON

Burden: accentuating the light in your home

clean and the wrong shape to drape so Paul designed a glass for it. It has a centre medallion abstract of a rose, with amber, blue and textured clear glass in the pattern. It's appropriate to almost any turn-of-the-century house and a lively, warm addition."

But it is his bathroom window, also designed by Blaney, that Mallory likes best. "I redid the bathroom and put the sink under the window. That meant I had no place to hang my mirror. So Paul designed a window around a mirror. It has a slight hint of rose, some deep rose and opal glass. Since it is on the south side of the house there's an architectural decorating element because of the light. In other words, we played with the light."

John Burden, a noted stained glass artist in Charlottetown, says, "We've all heard the term 'painting with the lights' and that's as good a description as any. But what we're really doing is using and transforming one of the most inexpensive aspects of a house. We're accentuating the light which becomes an intermedian between you and the outside."

Much of Burden's work is ecclesiastical too, but some of his private residential commissions give him the most satisfaction. One of his favourites is a bathroom door which he designed, and which his partner Blaine Hrabí technically executed for the home of P.E.I. potters Sandi Mahon and Katharine Dagg. "It's a classic door," says Burden, "with some irregular panels, and I've used a series of deep wine coloured poppies which twine around, linked by green tendrils and leaves, on ivory opaque glass."

Katharine Dagg notes that one of the window's most intriguing features is "how it changes. At night, with an old Victorian lamp shining behind it, the colours are deep and brilliant. In daytime, with the south light behind it, the colours are all rusts and oranges."

Stowe, Blaney and Burden have some practical hints for homeowners who may be contemplating incorporating stained glass art into their home architecture or decorating plan.

"Think about it," advises Blaney. "You wouldn't buy the first car someone offered just because it was blue. You should put at least as much thought into choosing an artist and discussing design as you would in buying a car. At least give your choice of this major and often lifetime addition to your home the same consideration." Blaney suggests you ask the artist for qualifications such as membership in related associations or graduation from professional courses or apprenticeships.

One of the best ways to find an artist who will suit you is to contact someone who has had work done and arrange to view it. Another tip on finding someone good and reliable, adds John Burden, is that the highly trained stained glass artist usually creates his or her colours in glass, staining it and controlling the tones by

kiln firing.

Once you find someone whose work you like, notes Burden, there's the question of personality. "The best relationship between the client and the artist is when the artist is responsive to your feelings and needs, has sympathy for where you are coming from — but also has a strong mind of his own. In the case of the poppies on the bathroom door, for instance, the only thing the clients told me was that they liked poppies and had a garden full of them. I took it from there. The result has pleased all of us."


Rejene Stowe also enjoys the personal contact with a client, but adds that it is important to maintain a businesslike relationship. After determining generally the type of design clients are looking for, she gives them a rough cost estimate. If they are still interested, she shows them slides of previous work and a sample contract, and talks with the clients generally about material, while trying to draw out and elaborate on their likes and dislikes. "Sometimes I'll have a flash of inspiration during this period," she says.

She then does a watercolour or coloured pen sketch, and if it's approved, she's ready to go into production. Before the design is executed, the client is free to back out at no cost. But should the client decide not to continue anytime after the design is begun, he or she is responsible for one-third of the agreed completion cost. Valerie and Alain Chamagne

say their involvement was negligible once production began. "We just waited to have it finished and installed — quite a quick process."

Installation is generally done by a carpenter at the client's expense with the artist in attendance. It's a simple, quick process, with the stained glass applied over the existing window, providing double glazing and added insulation. Stained glass windows don't require any special maintenance, and can be cleaned in the same way as ordinary windows.

"I think that stained glass work is one of the most vivacious and joyous of art forms, and an underplayed one," comments John Burden, who estimates that the cost of owning such an art form is about "\$125 to \$175 per square foot for an Edwardian window." Prices vary, with designs using imported and often hand-blown European glass generally being the most expensive. "It's a lifetime investment," offers Rejene Stowe, "and also a work of art. Not only do stained glass windows add to the resale value of the home, but if you have to move and can't bear to leave them, you can take them with you."

Richard Mallory speaks for the many homeowners who agree that their investment in stained glass was well worth it. "Somehow, these windows trigger a pleasure mechanism. We get a feeling of well-being when we pass them, of spirits being lifted." 

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The time you put into researching your home's past may save you money and even reveal some features you didn't know were there

Tracing your home's roots

Research, say the experts, is the key to restoring your older home to its former charm and glory

by Lana Hickey

If, 20 years ago, you decided to buy an older home with the intention of fixing it up, your friends might have laughed. Not today. All across Canada and the United States, older neighbourhoods are being revitalized as diligent homeowners — often with the help of contractors and architects — are turning run-down properties into sought-after real estate.

Whether you decide on rehabilitation (basic maintenance), renovation (taking something old and making it new) or restoration (bringing something back to a particular period), there are basic steps you should take before removing even the first nail, and they can all be summarized in one word: research.

Shane O'Dea is an architectural historian who has taught courses on how to "trace your home's roots." His 1834 home — a traditional Newfoundland salt box — on Kennas Hill in St. John's is a fine example of what you can produce when you research a house properly.

To begin, says O'Dea, draw a floor plan of every level. "That allows you to see if there are any lost spaces in the house." Some of these "lost spaces" may

yield old paint colours, wallpaper and traces of architectural features. In his own house he discovered a hidden cupboard in the hallway (which he subsequently converted into a clothes closet.) The floor plan, says O'Dea, also gives clues to the original layout of the house.

You might also uncover hidden features that can be made functional again. Research told O'Dea two fireplaces were missing. Under the heating oil tank he found pieces of decorated slate which, when assembled, formed one of those fireplaces, minus the mantle and insert. He found the mantle in the garage, and from paint samples on the slate, determined the fireplace had once been in the upstairs study, where he re-installed it, using a fireplace insert from a demolished building.

Next, date your home. Your property's deeds may refer you to earlier deeds containing information about yours or any other house on the property. "It is not always easy to date your house," says O'Dea, pointing out that not all deeds contain specific plot plans that would pinpoint when the house underwent physical changes. However, some factors make the task easier. For example, if the

house is in one of St. John's "Great Fire Zones" you know it was probably built after either 1846 or 1892 when fire destroyed most of the properties in those areas.

Third, look for illustrations of your home. *The Newfoundland Pictorial Record* by De Volpi illustrates many historic houses. Similar records exist in other provinces. Also, local archives often index collections of photographs showing changes to home exteriors over time. O'Dea was lucky to find four prints and one photo of his home, which helped to determine the dimensions of the original structure before additions. He also found a rarity — a home movie of a wedding at the house — which provided a visual record of the front porch, which O'Dea wanted to restore.

If, by now, you can determine generally when your house was sold, visit your local library or archives to do some newspaper research. "Search the newspapers in that year, particularly in the selling time of the year and see if the house is advertised for sale," says O'Dea. "Frequently those advertisements give a good description of the house." They may also tell you about the owners or tenants and may list room sizes. Newspapers often contain auction lists which might provide a clue to the furnishings, sometimes even room-by-room. Also check the Canadian Historical Inventory of Newspapers at your local museum to make sure you've gone through all the local publications of the day.

Finally, research family documents and query family members for information. Personal diaries often yield valuable clues about past features and uses of the house, as well as former owners. O'Dea began writing family members and descendants of his home's former owners until he located the son of a family who lived in the house from 1895 to 1914. They ran a market garden and he was able to draw O'Dea a map of the entire garden at 14 Kennas Hill, right down to individual flowers.

O'Dea advises that if you intend to move any walls or undertake an elaborate renovation, you should hire an expert — an architect or contractor — who will help you get the most efficient use of space and budget.

Architects Philip Pratt in St. John's and Allan Duffus in Halifax are experienced in renovation and restoration. Both offer some rules of thumb for assessing whether an old building is worth revitalizing and if so, how to do it properly and economically.

"If you are talking about a house that has had a lot of changes made to it, both structurally and cosmetically," says Pratt, "you are talking expensive renovations to restore it, and one obviously wants to consider if it's worth it."

An architect can help you determine the structural condition of the house, and Pratt advises that unless the building is "already halfway there to being restored,"



Built-in bookcases were hiding these windows and unless 75 per cent of the visual quality of the building is intact, "it's not worth doing." Even if the building does seem like a good candidate, says Pratt, "it's either a tremendous amount of time or a tremendous amount of cost. You've got to really think carefully about whether this restored project is going to suit your lifestyle requirements and if you're going to be comfortable there because it is an



Windows restored to their original beauty old house."

Allan Duffus suggests the homeowner should also size up his or her own experience. "An architect can be of great assistance to someone without the background and can save a lot of headaches in the process."

Even if you're looking at an extensive project, says Duffus, there are ways to budget your money wisely. "If you go



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ATLANTIC HOMES

about it in the right way and look at it from the point of view of what you can afford at the time and stick to that, you can advise yourself accordingly."

More recently, Duffus undertook another challenging restoration and renovation — of Stoddard House (1828) on Barrington Street in Halifax. He bought the Georgian property in 1981 when he too was "bitten by the bug." The building, originally the manse for St. Matthews Church, had seen many uses, leaving it in poor condition. Duffus resurrected it in just one year — but not before he did his research. "I was able

to uncover some of the indiscretions that had been created and was able to see that behind certain walls there were still the nice details — doors and mouldings — some of which had been removed, but left the profiles for me to replicate." Old photos showed windows on the south side of the house, although they had since disappeared. Removing bookcases, Duffus found the original windows, still intact and with shutters. They were in terrible shape but his daughter, a woodworker, rebuilt them.

Very seldom do you find pure restoration projects unless they're done by

government, says Duffus, who says that the average residential project involves a reasonably accurate restoration of the exterior and an adaptive renovation of the interior to modern standards of comfort. Pratt agrees. "I don't know if it's possible to do a complete restoration, as buildings have always been things that have changed over time. There can be essential qualities of buildings, and these are the things to really strive for in practical considerations."

Shane O'Dea cautions homeowners about bringing a house back to a particular period. "It's not even being done these days by museums or historic resource agencies because they feel it destroys the integrity and 'growth' of the building. A building should be left to speak of all its previous owners and its current owners."

The kitchen in the O'Dea house shows traces of more than one owner. O'Dea enlarged the area by adding a bay window in keeping with the dining room bay window, but it was the previous owner who removed a tin wall to reveal a large and attractive oven/fire unit that O'Dea intends to refinish.

A common mistake in fixing up an old house is overlooking the more functional and expensive aspects — like plumbing, electrical and heating — in favour of cosmetic work. Allan Duffus stresses that it's important to do the basics because, "You're going to end up by having a very valuable piece of real estate on your hands if done right."

All three experts agree on the importance of choosing your materials wisely. "There's the old problem created by new materials that don't suit the purpose." Given that suppliers now carry lines of materials that are compatible with older-style homes, Philip Pratt advises you "go for new materials rather than scrounge old materials. That is not necessarily true for doors and decorative elements, but in terms of mouldings you are better off to get them cut to match."

O'Dea adds that homeowners need to be careful consumers. After spending so much time researching the house, you should also invest some time in choosing the proper materials — like good quality paint. O'Dea warns that while you will probably want to insulate and replace draughty windows, you must be careful to ensure that your home can still "breathe." You can do this by setting the clapboard off from the frame with quarter-inch slate — which also helps the paint last longer.

Given the copious amount of work and time involved in fixing up an older home, it's anybody's guess why it's become such a popular preoccupation. Philip Pratt offers a clue. "It can be terribly satisfying because in general, we respond extremely well to old architecture and housing."

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JOHN GRACEY

Acrylic-latex paints are now the standard

Put the best face on your home

The Atlantic climate can be hard on the exterior of your home but there are steps to take to preserve your paint job

by John Gracey

A Prince Edward Island painter with more than 40 years experience says the conditions for house painting in Atlantic Canada are the poorest anyone could ask for. Ambie Weatherbie, whose family business J.C. Weatherbie and Sons in Charlottetown has been on the go for four generations, has seen every condition and problem imaginable. But most of the problems, he says, are related to the humidity in the salt air, which can seep through every piece of unprotected wood in a house. Weatherbie adds that moisture from inside the house — from taking showers, cooking and doing the laundry — is another culprit. It can be seen condensing on windows, and if not checked, can ruin sashes, sills and paint.

Other experts agree with him, including Neville McKitterick, one of the owners of Northumberland Paints, the only paint manufacturing company on the Island. According to McKitterick, homeowners must understand the properties of the most commonly used alkyd and latex paints before picking up the paint brush. Alkyd, or oil paint, was the paint of

choice years ago. It doesn't breathe and it's impervious to water. Latex paint, on the other hand, is water-based and, like human skin, it lets moisture out but not in. Latex paints "breathe."

Older homes used to "breathe" too, Ambie Weatherbie says, because most of them were never insulated and vapour barriers weren't used. But modern insulating techniques have sealed those older homes tighter than a drum. Warm, moist air inside the house has nowhere to go except through the walls. If its passage is blocked by impervious oil paint, peeling, cracks and blisters appear.

"Moisture can also get in behind the oil paint and through unprotected wood," says Weatherbie. "The top, bottom and edges of many wood doors haven't been painted or varnished, moisture gets in and the trouble starts. It shows up as black water marks or peeling paint. The severe, damp winters in Atlantic Canada also cause problems. Ice can block gutters and force water to back up into the wood. Many homes have never been painted behind the gutters and down pipes."

Solving the problem can be very difficult and sometimes impossible, the experts say. Ambie Weatherbie advises it takes patience and a lot of hard work.



JOHN GRACEY

Moisture behind paint is a common problem

"Stripping the house of all the old paint is the only answer," he explains. "It can be scraped by hand, sandblasted, or burned off, but off it must come."

Small vents must then be placed at the top and bottom of every stud space around the house. The job can be frustrating, says Weatherbie, because the stud spacing in older homes can be very irregular and many of the studs have cross braces, particularly in the corners. Sometimes there's no room around the braces for the vents.

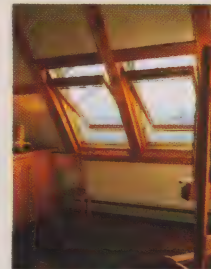
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Once the vents are in, one coat of oil-based, or acrylic, latex primer should be applied. The house must be perfectly dry before the primer goes on; Weatherbie claims July, August and September are the best and sometimes, only months to paint a house in Atlantic Canada. Two top coats of acrylic latex finish the job.

Neville McKitterick recommends the use of latex paints for exteriors. "Acrylic-latex paints are the established North American standard," he says. "Many people have said latex won't stand up, it will blister and peel off. When the complaints are checked out we usually

find the latex has been applied over oil paint, and it's the oil paint lifting away that's caused the problem."

Newer homes are much easier to repaint, McKitterick claims, because most are done with latex. But, as with older homes, the wood must be perfectly dry and properly prepared. To repaint, the surface must be lightly sanded, or gone over with a wire brush. The sanding or brushing not only removes loose paint, it also roughens the surface so that the new paint will bond to it. A coat of primer is applied and then two coats of top paint.

McKitterick warns, however, that new

wood contains water-soluble tannin. It will bleed through latex paint and "tobacco stain" the surface — so an oil-based primer, or a special latex primer that locks the tannin into the prime coat, must be used. The tannin will discolour the latex prime coat, but it won't show through the top coats. ☒

Stains and varnishes

Stains and varnishes are not exempt from the damage moisture can cause. Samuel Sorensen, president of Chemcraft and Sadolin Atlantic Ltd., a Halifax wholesaler and manufacturer of paints and stains, says, "Wood moves as it absorbs moisture and temperatures cause it to expand and contract. That's why varnish should never be used. It's too brittle and it will crack and start to peel away." He recommends the newer stains and finishes that are on the market. They're flexible and won't crack or peel as the wood moves.

Ultraviolet (UV) light is also very destructive to varnish and most paints, Sorensen says. Paint will chalk and varnish will go blotchy and start to peel away. The newer products have UV inhibitors in them that stop the problem. Lissi Jeppesen, a chemist with Chemcraft's Danish partner, Sadolin, says a good wood preservative is a "must" for the first step in protection. "Preferably shingles should be dipped in the preservative. If that's not possible, then it can be brushed on, but it's very important to make sure all surfaces, sides, top and bottom, are coated. The treatment is good for any kind of wood, soft or hard, and once the wood has been treated, a stain coat goes on, followed by a clear top coat."

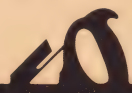
Jeppesen says refinishing isn't too difficult if the job is done before the wood "gets hungry. Refinish before the old covering fails," she warns. "If it has failed — severe cracking, blistering, peeling — then, as with paint, the old stuff has to be completely removed before the preservative goes on. When there's only a few bare spots they can be sanded and then treated with preservative and stain. A final top coat goes over the whole building."

The professionals all agree on one piece of advice for anyone painting a house. See an expert, they say. A knowledgeable paint dealer can be a great help. ☒



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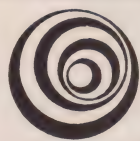
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ATLANTIC HOMES

Tools of the trade

New Brunswick's T.S. Simms Co. Ltd. of Saint John is the oldest manufacturer of paint brushes in Canada. The company has been making brushes since 1866 and is still family owned and operated.

When it's time to buy a paint brush, consumers should buy Canadian because the quality is much better than most overseas imports, says Wayne McLagghan, the company's manager of plant operations. North America is a world leader in the technology of making resins and materials used to manufacture brushes.

"There are two types of brushes," McLagghan says. "Brushes made from synthetic fibers, polyester and nylon, and those made from hog bristle. Synthetic brushes should be used with latex paints (although they can be used for oil) and bristle brushes should be used with oil paint."



A good brush is as important as the paint

He explains that a bristle brush can absorb as much as 15 per cent of the water in latex paints. That makes the brush hard to use and the water can eventually damage it. Oil paints will condition a bristle brush and improve its workability over time.

McLagghan says good brushes will have fibers, or bristles, of different lengths and stiffness, and hog bristles will be split at the end, much the way human hair will split. Synthetic brush fibers must have the split put in and the last quarter inch or so of the fiber must be roughened to hold the paint. They can also be tapered or shaped to give a fine cutting-in edge. "A poor quality brush will use raw fiber with no splitting or shaping on

the ends," he explains. "That means paint won't hold and it will run off the end. It's like painting with a board."

"A consumer can check the quality of a brush by pressing the tip flat into the palm of the hand. The fibers or bristle will spread out and the split ends can be seen. The different lengths can be seen by bending the bristles over and letting them spring back."

All paint brushes need good care to last. McLagghan advises they should be properly cleaned and dried before being put away. Wrapping them with plastic wrap afterwards will help keep the fibers in shape. Professional painters will also run a small amount of oil into the bristle brush before putting it away.

"When painting with latex the brush should be rinsed out every hour or so," McLagghan says.

More tips and safety hints

Peter Knox is a contractor and a plumbing and heating expert in Bunbury, near Charlottetown. He builds homes and does major renovations and repair work. When it comes to house-painting, he has these tips for doing a good, safe job.

Check for loose planks and shingles, replace the bad ones, and make sure to use galvanized nails for fastening. Common nails will rust and stain the finished job.

Make sure all edges (top, bottom and sides) on doors, shingles and trim are painted because these are prime areas for moisture to get in.

Use shellac to cover knots in new wood before the primer coat goes on; it will prevent sap from bleeding through the paint.

When using a ladder make sure it's secure. Don't over-reach when painting from a ladder. Beware of power lines; they can kill. Never leave a ladder up and unattended; it's an open invitation to a child. Use the rope that hauls an extension ladder up and down to tie the two halves together at one pair of rungs; if the catches slip or break the ladder is still held together.

Melvin Roberts, a technical advisor at Northumberland Paints, suggests checking with your paint dealer before painting because primer paint can be custom mixed to cover certain wood conditions. He also advises painting with your arm, not your wrist; it's not as tiring and the paint flows on better.

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OMHOKATHLEEN FLANAGAN

A co-op may own any form of housing from a high-rise building to a row of townhouses

Sharing the home turf

A homeowner's guide to co-operatives and condominiums: the pros and cons of joint ownership alternatives

Will Rogers was right. "Buy land," he said, "they ain't makin' any more." The supply of urban land is fixed — but the demand rises steadily, driven by population growth, speculation, and the century-long migration from the country to the town. Housing prices, particularly in central city areas, have risen steeply as a result, driving home ownership out of reach for many families.

In response, Atlantic Canadians have turned increasingly to co-ops and condominiums, which combine the security of ownership with the affordability of renting. Nova Scotia's first condominium project was registered in 1972; by 1987, the province boasted 108 projects with 3,892 units, and another 22 projects with 1,306 units were under development. Co-ops exist everywhere, but condominiums are an urban phenomenon: Nova Scotia has only 50 such units outside Halifax.

What's a condo, anyway? What's a co-op?

In the past, Atlantic Canada's most common form of co-operative was the "building co-op," a group of prospective homeowners who pooled their labour and their savings, bought materials as a group, and jointly built a separate home for each member family. Once the homes were built, the co-op normally dissolved, with each home becoming the property of an individual family.

Today's housing co-ops, however, are "continuing co-ops," in which a non-profit corporation, owned by the residents, holds title to the project as a whole, and leases the individual units to its own members at no profit. A co-op may own any form of housing from a high-rise building to a row of townhouses or a subdivision of fully-detached homes; it may buy existing housing, convert non-residential buildings to residential use, or build new housing units itself.

Members buy a share at a nominal price to join the co-op. The co-op is run by the members, usually through a Board of Directors elected from among the membership. If a member withdraws, the co-op refunds the member's fee. Nobody can make a profit on the shares, and nobody can make a profit on the housing units themselves.

In principle, co-op housing can be tailored to any income level, and in cities like New York even lavish apartments are often owned co-operatively, without any government support. In Atlantic Canada, however, most co-ops are supported by the Federal Co-operative Housing Program, administered by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Under the CMHC program, co-op members who would have to spend more than 30 per cent of their family incomes on shelter are eligible for rent supplements. Co-ops must provide between 15 per cent and 30



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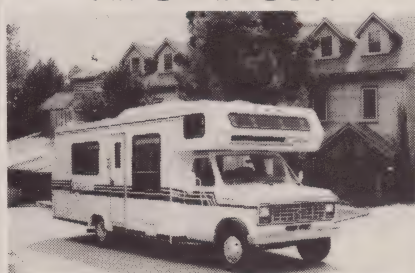


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per cent of their units to such households, and an additional five per cent of the units must be designed for people with physical disabilities. A CMHC guarantee allows the co-op to finance 100 per cent of its capital cost, so that members do not need to make a down payment or buy an expensive share when they join.

Co-ops are economical, but they also offer other benefits. Co-op members really are owners, entitled to occupy their homes as long as they choose, knowing that their monthly payments will only be increased to cover rising costs. Residents also have some say in shaping their immediate community. Neighbours are not anonymous, and members may move within the co-op as their housing needs change over time. Some co-ops are designed for particular groups: co-op developments in Kentville and Truro, N.S., for instance, are largely or entirely made up of senior citizens.

The Gallup Poll, says Vivian Campbell of Access Housing Services in Halifax, shows that Atlantic Canadians are significantly more likely than other Canadians to join housing co-operatives for philosophical reasons. Co-op members believe in open and voluntary membership, democratic control, limited interest on shares, and return of any surplus to the members. Co-ops also restrain the general inflation of housing prices, because the individual units cannot be bought and sold on the open market.

Condominium units, by contrast, are individually owned, and may even be marketed as investments for later resale on the open market. Condos still represent only a tiny fraction of Canada's housing stock — just 171,000 of the nation's 8.3 million homes, according to the 1981 census. But they are growing rapidly, and their roots go back 2,000 years: the word itself is Latin, and condominiums were a recognized form of housing in classical Rome.

In a condominium development, individual owners hold separate title to the individual units. Like a traditional homeowner, a condo owner may buy, sell or mortgage his or her home as the occasion demands. Common areas — like hallways, yards and the building's exterior — are jointly owned and managed by a corporation made up of owners. The corporation establishes by-laws to govern such matters as pets, noise and parking. It pays for common costs such as taxes, snow removal and maintenance, recovering these costs through a monthly "condo fee" paid by each owner.

Inexperience, personalities and differing expectations may cause trouble in co-operatives, but since members generally hold similar values and have similar needs, they are strongly motivated to resolve such inevitable human prob-

lems. A condominium, however, rests on much more individualistic principles — including the profit motive. Unlike a co-op, a condominium is normally built by a private developer, who sells the units on the open market — often before the condos are actually built. The developer's profit depends on keeping construction costs down, while the owners naturally insist that the jobs be completed with quality workmanship and good materials.

The new owners may not get along, either; they are often total strangers who do not necessarily share any values and may have bought their units for very different reasons. Since many condominium developments are structured as partial tax shelters, the units are often bought by investors. In metro Halifax, about 22 per cent of condo units were investor-owned in 1987, and — depending on the condo — investors may be entitled to rent their units to anyone they choose. But what happens when a tenant plays a stereo at full volume — and the unit's owner is in Florida? To whom do the neighbours complain, and how quickly will the problem be resolved?

Condos appeal strongly to "empty-nesters" — older couples whose children have left home but who want quality accommodation where someone else will shovel the snow, cut the grass and protect the place from intruders while the owners are away. For such people, condos are probably better than co-ops. Not everyone is cut out for co-operative living, and condominiums offer a wide variety of accommodation at affordable prices. Many condo developments include splendid shared facilities — gyms, spas, pools, underground parking, meeting rooms and so forth — and they tend to be clustered downtown, often within walking distance of shops, offices, theatres, leading restaurants and other city amenities.

Pat Cassidy is president of the three-year-old Nova Scotia Condominium Association, an owners' association which provides information and lobbies for better government regulation. Condos have plenty of advantages, he says, but they're frequently sold as hassle-free — and they aren't. He advises prospective purchasers to investigate carefully before they invest, and above all, to have a lawyer review every aspect of the purchase.

The chief benefit of home ownership may be security: the knowledge that you can't be evicted and that your living costs will remain reasonably stable. For people who don't want or can't afford the full responsibilities of individual ownership, both co-ops and condos offer that security — often within a very pleasant shared environment and at a reasonable price. Co-ops and condos are effective solutions to real problems. We can expect to see even more of them in the future. ☑



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BUSINESS

Capitalizing on popularity of wood heat boosts morale

A wood fuel company in Cape Breton started as a make-work project and has become a viable enterprise creating much needed jobs

by Bob LeDrew

In the mid '70s, skyrocketing oil prices forced many North Americans to look for alternate methods of heating their homes. Various concepts such as wind power or solar energy found a devoted but somewhat limited following. One form of alternate energy that did find a strong place in the home heating market was wood. The sudden jump in oil prices reminded many people of the advantages of the old wood stove. A small company outside Sydney, N.S., the Caribou Marsh Fuel Wood Company, has taken advantage of this trend to create some much-needed employment for local native people.

Caribou Marsh began in 1984 as a make-work project sponsored by the federal department of employment and immigration. Funding for the company was provided through a program called LEAP — the Local Employment Assis-

tance Program. Caribou Marsh, like many projects funded by LEAP, was selected for two reasons. The LEAP program was set up to establish employment in areas of high unemployment, and also to provide employment and skill training for certain target groups. The company was created in order to employ Micmac Indians from the local Membertou Reserve.

Caribou Marsh was structured as a corporation, with a board of directors made up of members of the Membertou band acting in an advisory capacity. A representative of the LEAP program sat on the board to act as monitor and to provide a liaison with the government. The board's first task was to find a manager for the company.

They found Sheldon Ranni, a Sydney resident with the combination of skills that the board was looking for, and the

former steelworker began working for the company in February of 1984.

When Ranni started at Caribou Marsh, he faced some problems. The people who made up his potential market were used to buying from people that they knew — people for whom the firewood business was just a way of making some extra money.



Customer satisfaction is Ranni's concern

Because the company began in late 1984, its first-year sales were not spectacular. But the next year, sales had improved significantly, and Sheldon Ranni began to be hopeful about Caribou Marsh's future.

Ranni decided from the start to operate the company in a manner that some might say was old-fashioned. Caribou Marsh didn't do a lot of advertising. Ranni felt that word-of-mouth would be more effective. Customer satisfaction was a primary concern. If a customer said that the wood was dirty, then Ranni would give them an amount of wood equivalent in value to the cleaning costs. "If we sacrifice a little money to make a customer feel better, it'll eventually come back, because that guy will remember what we did for him," he says. The strategy paid off. In 1985 and 1986, Caribou Marsh's sales kept increasing, and the company picked up some clients that were a bit larger than the average home-owner — like the Keltic Lodge resort in Ingonish.

By this time, Caribou Marsh was beginning to please the government as much as its customers. The LEAP representative, Bob Edwards, says "when a company like Caribou Marsh makes steady strides toward viability, everyone is happy."

Caribou Marsh has done so well, in fact, that they recently bought another fire wood processing machine to double their production. This meant some temporary layoffs, but Ranni says that the company will be diversifying in the near future, and the laid-off employees will be back to work soon.



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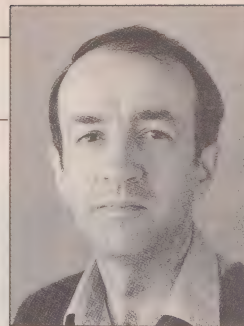
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OUTBOARDS



A justice system in contempt

Felix, don't get your balls caught in a vise over an Indian," Robert Anderson, now a Nova Scotia County Court Judge, once counselled Donald Marshall's lawyer Felix Cacchione.

Testifying before the Marshall Inquiry, Anderson protested that this was not a judgement on Marshall's race but rather on his "personality and reputation." He went on to defend a notion he had once propounded when he was a prosecutor in the Nova Scotia Attorney General's office: that a lawyer need not put as much effort into defending a lower sort of person as into the defence of a proper citizen.

The Marshall Inquiry has heard a number of other testimonials along these lines (one prosecutor had "joked" that the Indians of the Membertou Reserve should be fenced in; former Attorney General Ron Giffin had turned the Marshall Inquiry itself into slapstick comedy at a police dinner) and by the time you read this there may be more. But Anderson's remarks cast the problem with justice in Nova Scotia into a rather neat little package. All you have to do is add a few blockhead RCMP inquiries and other jiggy pokery from the Attorney General's department and you get the whole picture: the system is heavy with genteel racism, class prejudice, miscarried justice, and casual favouritism towards the well-connected, all of it practised by a merry lot who know a lot of jokes.

Justice in Nova Scotia was known, or at least suspected, as a venue for racist attitudes by some judges and prosecutors — and for interference on behalf of friends by political authorities — long before the Marshall Inquiry. In fact, when the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia exonerated Donald Marshall of the murder he didn't commit back in 1983, and for which he spent 11 years in prison, it did so only with backbiting reluctance. Marshall, it said, was "the author of his own misfortune" and any miscarriage of justice was "more apparent than real."

Thus, against the universal norms of justice on which law and morality ideally stand — that all are equal before the law, innocent until proven guilty and deserving of an adequate defence — we have what we might call the Nova Scotia doctrine: that Donald Marshall was just a troublemaking Indian, and even if he didn't kill Sandy Seale he deserved 11 years in jail anyway — just as anyone else who's a bit rough around the edges deserves a stint in the slammer whether he's done anything specific or not.

Anyone who comes from a "good family" and can afford a good lawyer, on the other hand, deserves a break.

One can run into a problem of perspective here. The Supreme Court's remarks and those of Judge Anderson and others were, after all, probably in line with what most Nova Scotians think. Even someone honestly trying to come to grips with this problem might be tempted to say: well, what the hell, in reality justice is rough, and not just in Nova Scotia. It's not that bad.

In order to realize how bad it is one must consider it from the point of view of the victim. The prime victims, the least of our citizens as it were, are the Indians, whose entanglement with the white man's law goes back to the very beginning. It's a very grim irony that the Indians should be perceived as being lawless and jail-prone. As Alexander Christmas, president of the Union of Nova Scotia Indians points out, the Indians started out believing in the law. They thought they had a good deal in the treaties of land and friendship signed with the first settlers. At root, it's the prevailing society, having failed to honour those treaties, that's lawless.

For Alexander Christmas, the testimony at the Marshall Inquiry is both banal and delightfully explosive. It's banal because it's nothing new. Every Indian in Nova Scotia who's attained the age where he or she can figure it out knows that these are the attitudes inherent not only in the justice system but in housing commissions, welfare agencies and other official bodies whose wards the Indians have mostly been.

But it's also elating because it's finally coming out. In a way, all the Indians of Nova Scotia — one might say of Canada — are Donald Marshalls. They stoically protested their innocence within their social prison, and no one heard, cared or believed. To have it suddenly out in the open is an electrifying ray of light in the centuries-long gloom.

For Alexander Christmas, the Marshall Inquiry opens the possibility at last that a system of justice respectful of justice could be set up, a chance for a new order, of something being done "for both the Indians and for justice." He has niggling fears that it might all be for naught, that the Marshall Commission might make its report, that it might be filed and forgotten and that everything might revert to what it was. But on the whole Christmas feels that something will

change — and that in fact it already has.

There's been a changing of attitudes towards Indians in the Sydney area since Marshall was acquitted in 1983, he says. There is now "a real conscious effort to come to know our people. I find that people are talking to us more, and are getting genuinely interested in who we are." It used to be, he says, "that our people were followed around in stores — things like that. It was thought they would steal if not watched."

The promise of the Marshall Inquiry is that a cleanout of some bad attitudes in the Nova Scotia justice system will occur. There's a related problem, however, that the Commission will probably not touch upon but which is as needy of reform. It's the political appointment of judges to the bench. There's growing concern about this practice across Canada. The Canadian Bar Society put out a report last year on the subject, fingering the Maritimes as being particularly bad. Many of the judges who figure in the Marshall affair, directly or indirectly, reached the bench by that route. Leonard Pace, Attorney General when Marshall was convicted, was one of the judges who sat on the 1983 appeal. His successor, Harry How, who was perpetually embroiled in controversy, went on to become chief judge of the Provincial Court.

This subject was the butt of some merriment at the Nova Scotia Tories' annual convention in mid-February. According to the Halifax daily, *The Chronicle-Herald*, outgoing party president John Abbass joked about appointments to the bench at one meeting, noting that long-time party fund-raiser David Chipman had left that role "for a higher place. Now he's a judge." Chipman, appointed to the Nova Scotia Supreme Court last year, was replaced as fund raiser by stockbroker Donald Ripley. Abbass then joked that maybe things would be different in future. Maybe they'd make two appointments. "John Abbass is going to be chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada and Don Ripley is going to be chief justice of the High Court of Nova Scotia."

Handing out judgeships as payoffs to worn out politicians and party bagmen has a lot to do with the perpetuation of the attitudes that are at the heart of the problem with Nova Scotia justice. It is also an open invitation by the justice system to be held in contempt, and not just by the Micmac Indians. ☐

Slipping through the dragnet

(James Dubro and Robin Rowland are co-authors of the book *King of the Mob: Rocco Perri and the Women Who Ran his Rackets*. This article is based on material unearthed during their research on the book and was written by compiling information from a number of secret RCMP files. The first part of this two-part series chronicled the infamous Joe Sottile's bootlegging activities and in this final installment the RCMP are hot on his trail).

by James Dubro and Robin Rowland

On Saturday morning, Oct. 30, 1926, Inspector C.D. (Denny) LaNauze, the RCMP commander of the Maritime Provinces District had an urgent meeting in Halifax with Sergeant Frederick Lucas, in charge of the Criminal Investigation Branch in Saint John. Lucas was temporarily in Halifax attached to a Royal Commission investigating bootlegging.

W. F. Griffiths, the postal inspector in Saint John, had telegraphed LaNauze he would be taking the train to Halifax and he would be bringing with him a very sensitive piece of evidence.


LaNauze was in charge of the search for Joe Sottile, one of the most wanted men in North America. He faced 26 charges of manslaughter in Ontario and murder charges in New York after 41 people died from drinking poisonous wood alcohol. The post office had been intercepting all mail addressed to James Lavallee, a Saint John bootlegger who was Sottile's partner.

Griffiths had a photograph of a misspelled and ungrammatical letter that Joe Sottile had written to Lavallee on a telegraph form. The reason for Griffiths' hurried trip was soon clear.

It seemed Sottile was worried about money. On the run, with no bootlegging business to provide an income, he needed cash for expenses and money to pay his Ontario lawyer, R. H. Greer. But it was the second paragraph of the letter that was an eye opener for the inspector:

"Hymie sent me \$3,200 for Jacobs for work he done at time that U.S. applied to have Naturalization certificate, at the

With the help of a few favours and a false passport, Joe Sottile eludes the RCMP and the justice system

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

JOSEPH HENRY SOTTILE
 Wanted on a Charge of Manslaughter
Reward of \$2,000.00

TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS will be paid by the Government of the Province of Ontario for the arrest, or such information as will lead to the arrest, of the above-named man. Sottile is wanted by the American as well as the Provincial authorities of Ontario, and the reward is available to Police Officers as well as others.

DESCRIPTION



JOSEPH HENRY SOTTILE, age 35 years, weight about 220 lbs., height 5 feet 9 inches, dark eyes, black hair, good dresser, Italian, well educated and speaks English, Italian and Jewish.

IN THE EVENT of more than one person claiming to be entitled to share in this reward, said reward will be apportioned by the Attorney-General of this Province. A warrant for the apprehension of Sottile has been issued. Please make every effort to locate and arrest this man, telegraphing the undersigned.

V. A. S. WILLIAMS,
 Commissioner, Ontario Provincial Police.

Toronto, Canada, 27th August, 1926.

time it was so serious and I was so much worried that I also retained in the matter Hon. McDonald, Minister for Finance and both worked. I don't know how serious it may have developed and I was surely worried and they took advantage of the situation and charge plenty, in fact I still owe Mr. McDonald some more, so that's that."

The RCMP knew that Sottile had fraudulently obtained Canadian citizenship. Now LaNauze had a clue; Jacobs was Samuel W. Jacobs, Liberal Member of Parliament for the riding of Montreal-Cartier. In Sottile's file were letters Jacobs had written on his behalf to the Secretary of State. An honest MP does not charge \$3,200 (about \$60,000 today) to intervene in citizenship cases.

The other man named was "McDonald." LaNauze knew that Prime Minister Mackenzie King's Minister of Finance was James Alexander Robb. A possible suspect was the former Minister of National Defence, Edward Mortimer MacDonald, a member of an old and distinguished family from Pictou. First elected to the Nova Scotia Legislature in 1897 and then to the Commons in 1904, MacDonald was considered a lightweight who got the defence portfolio because King needed a Maritimer in the cabinet. He had been the member for Antigonish-Guysborough until he had retired from politics for reasons of health after an election was called in June, 1926.

LaNauze sent a coded telegram to RCMP Commissioner Cortlandt Starnes, outlining the bribery allegations. Starnes ordered an immediate investigation.

After the poison liquor deaths, Starnes had ordered RCMP detachments in Toronto, Ottawa and the Maritimes to look for Sottile. On Sept. 15, LaNauze had assigned Constable J. C. Storey to check a tip Sottile had sailed from Halifax to France. The local immigration office had no record of Sottile sailing from Halifax. An immigration officer then checked his old records and found that Sottile had once landed in Halifax and had used as a reference Jim Manopolis, a partner with his brother George in a restaurant at 123 Hollis Street called the Sea Grill.


Jim Manopolis told Storey that Sottile had dined at the restaurant whenever he was in Halifax. He said Sottile had sailed from North Sydney about six weeks earlier for St. Pierre. "I questioned him closely as I feel sure he is well acquainted with Sottile," Storey reported. "He was very anxious to know whether there is any reward..."

On Sept. 20, after a toy salesman who looked a little like the photo of Sottile on the reward poster had been picked up and released in Moncton, LaNauze took personal command of the search and met Sergeant Lucas, the only RCMP officer who had actually met Sottile. Lucas was convinced that Sottile was somewhere in the Maritimes. Unfortunately, Lucas was


then on his way out of town — he had just been seconded to the Royal Commission on Customs and Excise.

LaNauze then arranged with the post office in Saint John to intercept and open all mail addressed to Sottile's partner James Lavallee. The RCMP inspector added in his next report... "I personally interviewed George Manopolis... he corroborated his brother's statement and stated he had written to Greek friends both in St. Pierre and Saint John who he could depend on to give reliable information regarding Sottile..."

On Oct. 7, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) inspector in the Niagara Region, Chris Airey, was called to a secret meeting with George H. Callinan, the chief of detectives in Niagara Falls, N.Y. He told Airey that an informant had



RCMP Sergeant Frederick Lucas was the only officer who actually met Joe Sottile



seen a letter written by Sottile to one of his gang in the Falls. The return address was 123 Hollis Street, Halifax — the location of the Sea Grill. Callinan also told Airey the reason for the secrecy: "...he had heard it rumoured that Sottile is enjoying protection from someone in an official capacity." The OPP passed the tip on to the RCMP and LaNauze, his suspicions now confirmed, sent two of his men to question the Manopolis brothers. They stuck to their story that Sottile was on St. Pierre. LaNauze noted that the Sea Grill had no rooms and ordered round-the-clock surveillance. LaNauze also arranged for the Halifax post office to intercept mail to the Sea Grill.

On the morning of Oct. 19, George Manopolis called on LaNauze. He said he had a letter from a friend saying Sottile was seen on a schooner that had sailed from St. Pierre for Newfoundland. Manopolis told LaNauze "he had no reason for hiding Sottile and that his premises were open to our inspection."

On Oct. 22, two letters arrived in one envelope addressed to "H. Burns" at 123 Hollis Street. It was the first of many letters that would arrive over the next

month, covering everything from the bootlegging business and newsclippings on the bad booze trials in Buffalo to the trouble Sottile's wife was causing in Niagara Falls. There was also a cryptic series of letters written in Italian that described for Sottile how his escape plan was progressing.

On Oct. 29, a registered package arrived addressed to "Sam Stamas" from James Lavallee. The RCMP opened it up to find a package of mail for Sottile. It included letters from other bootleggers and a receipt for \$8,750 from Montreal for "liquor in transit to Cuba." An unsigned note showed three boats and their loads had been seized at Black's Harbour, Pennfield and Lorneville, N.B., costing Sottile, Lavallee and their partner George Stackhouse \$22,731. There was also a personal letter for Sottile from Maxime Albert, who Inspector LaNauze wrote was "a notorious smuggler." (The Albert family of Madawaska County were said to be able to smuggle anything, either way across the border near Edmundston.) The Mounties watched as a man named James Bastas picked up the parcel and took it to George Manopolis at a pool hall beside the Sea Grill.

On Oct. 30, as LaNauze met with Lucas and Griffiths, Constable Isadore Delvallet, noted in the Mounties for his skill in surveillance and brought in from Montreal for the case, was in a rented car outside the post office when Bastas arrived in a Cleveland Sedan to pick up the mail. The driver, the surveillance team later reported, was "an Italian-looking man accompanied by a 'flashy' woman." Delvallet and his partner, Constable Beazley of the Halifax detachment, followed the Cleveland from the post office to the Sea Grill. Bastas and his companion stayed there just a few moments and then emerged from the restaurant and drove off. Delvallet and Beazley attempted to follow but were stopped behind a streetcar as the Saturday shopping crowd poured off. When the way was clear there was no sign of the Cleveland. After a fruitless search the two Mounties returned to the detachment where a check revealed the Cleveland was registered in the name of Mike Morro, Joe Sottile's bootlegging supercargo.

On Thursday, Nov. 4, a telegram arrived from a woman named Lilly to "Mr. Mori" saying she was leaving Oct. 30 on the S.S. *Giuseppe Verdi*. The telegram was the first indication to Sottile that his plan was working.

On Nov. 5, Morro and Bastas again called for Sottile's mail. Delvallet was able to trail them unnoticed to the Berkley, described as "a second rate boarding house" at 9 and 11 Inglis Street. Delvallet took a room at the Berkley to watch Morro.

LaNauze decided not to raid the rooming house in fear of tipping off Sottile. "Morro is trailed easily between the Berkley and the Sea Grill," LaNauze

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reported to Ottawa, "but he is almost impossible to follow once he strikes out from this. He has been observed stopping at corners and looking around as if he was using great caution." On Nov. 11, LaNauze reported his frustration to Ottawa in a special report to Commissioner Starnes: "I presume you are very disappointed at our efforts. It's hard to understand that Sottile is right around here somewhere and we can't find him."

The Mounties added a couple of pieces to the puzzle. The file on the bribery investigation no longer exists but the RCMP file on Sottile contains references that indicate — but give no details — that the investigation had tied Welsford MacDonald, eldest son of the Pictou MP Edward MacDonald, to Sottile. It is not clear whether it was a lawyer-client relationship or something more incriminating. LaNauze reported to Starnes that he knew Welsford MacDonald personally. (The younger MacDonald was a lawyer who retained the title of Colonel after serving in the First World War. In the 1930s, Welsford MacDonald would become a Nova Scotia County Court Judge.)

The Sam Stamas to whom some of the letters for Sottile were addressed was

identified by LaNauze as a "smart Montreal Greek who formed a Greek club here." (Stamas was living at 105 1/2 Hollis Street.) The club, LaNauze reported, was a front for gambling.

On Nov. 22, the RCMP intercepted two letters, one for Mike Morro from a Mrs. Galice DeFrancesco telling him she had left her husband, Russell DeFrancesco, because he was spending too much time with Joe Sottile's wife Rose. Mrs. DeFrancesco threatened to go to court and tell all, including the location of Joe Sottile.

The second letter, for "Dearest Don Peppe," dated Nov. 15, told of how "Moto" had met the *Giuseppe Verdi* when it docked in New York. From the second letter, Sottile knew his plan was now operational and it was time to leave Halifax.

By this time, LaNauze had taps on the phones at the Sea Grill and the Manolop-

olis home on Barrington Street. Nothing happened until Saturday, Nov. 20, when one of the brothers made a long distance call to Pictou to Welsford MacDonald and had a long conversation about passports.

At the same time, the surveillance team trailed Morro to a house at 72 South Park Street, not far from the Inglis Street boarding house but in a much better neighbourhood. On Sunday, Delvallet again followed Morro to the house. A check showed it was owned by "a prominent clothier and reputable citizen, Mr. W. H. Munnis." Munnis had rented the house through a real estate agent to a

barber from Saint John named McClement. The real estate agent, however, reported that a "girl of a flashy type" had refused to allow him in the house to inspect the furniture.

LaNauze led a raid on the house just after midnight on Monday, Nov. 22. Sottile was gone. While the Mounties had been scouring the waterfront and the cheap boarding houses, Sottile had spent two months in relative luxury.

The RCMP would later discover that Sottile had taken the train from Halifax to Montreal just before the raid. There, he met a man who had sailed from Italy to New York on the vessel *Giuseppe Verdi*

carrying two sets of false papers, in the names of brothers Giuseppe and Vincenzo Failla. Sottile had gone to the Italian consulate in Montreal and, using the false papers, had obtained a genuine Italian passport in the name of Giuseppe Failla.

LaNauze continued to question the barber, McClement, and the woman, and at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23, sent an urgent telegram to headquarters saying Sottile was in Montreal. But Sottile again escaped the RCMP dragnet and on Saturday, Nov. 27, the "Failla" brothers sailed for Liverpool on the White Star liner *S.S. Regina*.

Coded telegrams were sent from the Ontario Attorney General to the Home Office in London, requesting Sottile's arrest. (In the meantime, letters addressed to "Don Peppe" were still arriving at the Sea Grill.)

On Dec. 4, the *S.S. Regina* was met

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had been watching
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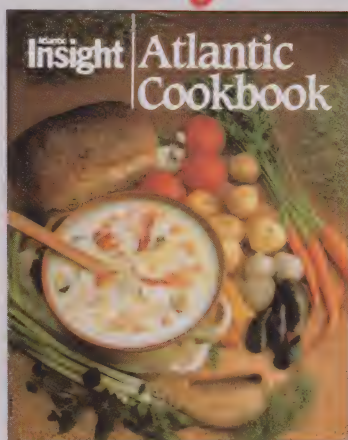
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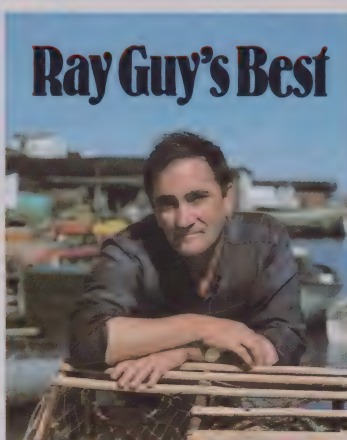
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FLASHBACK

at Liverpool by chief inspector Hubert Moore and detective sergeant Sullivan of the Liverpool City Police. Moore questioned "Failla" and reported to Scotland Yard the suspect did not answer the description of Sottile: "5 ft. 7 in. in height, 160 lbs., small dark moustache (waxed at ends), features more pointed than shown in the photograph of Sottile." As Scotland Yard distributed the poster, Failla/Sottile left Folkestone for Europe on Dec. 7, 1926.

Back in Halifax, letters continued to arrive at the Sea Grill and LaNauze had the frustration of following Sottile's progress. On Dec. 9, he wrote to both Stamas and Manopolis on White Star stationery to say he had landed safely in Italy. On Dec. 18, Sottile wrote two letters from Castelbuono, Palermo, Sicily to George Manopolis and Mike Morro thanking them both for their help and noting that he was prepared to send names, which LaNauze interpreted as "it is evident that there is some scheme on foot; possibly smuggling Italians, but I have nothing definite to prove this." It was, of course, the Mafia smuggling network.

All charges against Sottile were eventually dropped. The U.S. courts ruled that the safe in his office was drilled in violation of the search and seizure provisions of the U.S. Constitution. The evidence was inadmissible in a U.S. court and it was never formally released to the authorities in Ontario.

In October 1930, the U.S. Attorney in Buffalo reported that Sottile had been smuggled back into the U.S. and that he had been given a welcoming mob banquet in Niagara Falls, N.Y. He added, "I believe that both this country and Canada should co-operate to rid both countries of this most undesirable citizen in order that he may be shipped back to Italy where I am sure Mussolini could use him to advantage."

Sottile was American-born and could not be deported. Ironically, he also remained a Canadian citizen. The Secretary of State's department never revoked the certificate, claiming there was insufficient proof Sottile had lied.

The files on Joe Sottile add a new chapter to the story of Maritime rumrunning. It was not just adventurous fishermen sailing from Saint John, Halifax and Yarmouth to Rum Row. It was also men like Joe Sottile and others who cared little for the product that reached the customer, whether it was in a Broadway night club or in Moncton where local people also died of wood alcohol poisoning.

The sea lane from St. Pierre to Halifax or Saint John was a mob "connection" to New York or Buffalo or Toronto. And if it was the fishermen who took the risks, it was the bosses like Joe Sottile, Rocco Perri and Frank Costello who reaped the profits.

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Savage and Dartmouth — no longer in the shadows

Mayor John Savage's charismatic and sometimes controversial style may just be the reason for his city's rising star

by Sue MacLeod

The terrible truth about Dartmouth is that it suffers from an affliction of the '80s: Dartmouth has an image problem. The city's mayor, John Savage, insists that Nova Scotia's second largest municipality really *isn't* boring, but he doesn't deny that outsiders tend to see it that way.

"Dartmouth's image has always suffered," he admits, "from living in the shadow of Halifax."

John Savage himself makes for an interesting contrast. For example, he's probably the only Maritime mayor to have appeared on the front page of a local newspaper with his arm around a folk/rock singer (Bruce Cockburn, whom he first met in Nicaragua). Savage has been called many things in his time — including "Commie" and "condescending" — but he's never been known as boring.

The friendly, charismatic family doctor had little trouble winning the

Dartmouth mayoralty race in October of 1985. Since then he's become known as a controversial and humane politician who's concerned about social justice and unusually well-versed in such issues as subsidized day care and affordable housing.

At the age of 55, Savage has already spent nearly three decades as a family practitioner. In recent years he has travelled to Central America and he speaks out against U.S. intervention there. He is also critical of our own system. "Housing isn't dealt with rationally in this society any more than social assistance is," he says and on some of our trading practices he adds that, "Much of the cheap fruit and coffee we get comes from unfair and exploitive relationships with countries where the land is owned by ten per cent of the people."

Led by Savage, Dartmouth has become the first Canadian city to take part in Watercan, a new program to help

provide clean water in the developing world by asking householders to send donations with their water bill payments.

But to bring a concern for social justice, both local and global, to municipal office is no simple matter. Savage doesn't describe himself as socialist. "I prefer to avoid labels," he says, "though many other people have labelled me a socialist." He has a full slate of critics on the right, as well as some on the left. A closer look at both the man and his city reveals part of the history that lies behind the image — going back to when Savage, a native of South Wales, emigrated to Canada in 1966 to become one of the partners in the Dartmouth Medical Centre.

He came to a community that was both an old town — dating back to the mid-1700s — and a brand new city, having been incorporated in 1961 with the amalgamation of old, central Dartmouth and several neighbouring settlements. It had 40,000 people (a quarter its present number) and was touted as a city on the move as new suburbs sprouted and grew.

Within two years of his arrival Savage was the main force in setting up a clinic in North Preston, a rural Black community just outside Dartmouth, that was poorly served by medical facilities. There was a serious drug problem in Dartmouth at that time as well, and Savage started a drug crisis centre in a little storefront

PROFILE

office downtown.

Also in the late '60s and early '70s, Savage recalls, "I grew into the realization of the need for sex education." Concerned about the growing number of pregnancies among his teenage patients at the Dartmouth Medical Centre in downtown Dartmouth, he helped to establish a family planning organization that's now the Planned Parenthood Association of Nova Scotia. He was one of the first Dartmouth doctors to give oral contraceptives to teenage girls, and he made speeches about family planning and sex education to home and school associations and youth groups.

"There were numerous conflicts with the media," he smiles, with a defiant sparkle in his eye. "I was chased by ministers in Halifax. I was accused of corrupting the youth of Dartmouth."

But in 1978, the first year Dartmouth held school board elections, Savage won a seat. He would go on to chair the board and to achieve his goal of bringing a comprehensive sex education program into Dartmouth schools.

Savage, who's married with seven children, is a practising Roman Catholic, and he doesn't see his work in family planning as a contradiction. "In a pluralistic society," he says, "you can't insist that everyone share your own beliefs and values."

Dr. John O'Conner has worked with Savage at the Dartmouth Medical Centre since 1970. "There was a time when John Savage was considered quite a rebel in this community," says O'Conner. "A bearded revolutionary who had parachuted himself in here and he was resented a bit because he did talk about things like sex and drugs and activism in the community."

"He's establishment now," O'Conner adds. "If he's the mayor of this city I guess you pretty well have to call him part of the establishment."

Savage, who had run unsuccessfully as a federal Liberal candidate in '72 and '79, hadn't tried for municipal office before. But he was well-known to Dartmouth voters for his work both locally and internationally.

In 1982 he'd been invited to visit Nicaragua as part of a fact-finding tour called Medical Aid to Nicaragua, and he'd come away highly impressed by the Sandinistas' public-education approach to health care. "They had not one death from polio that year," he says, shaking his head in admiration. "A complete changeover in only three years from being a country riddled with polio."

The previous council had given approval in principle for \$1 million to be spent on housing, and one of Savage's first moves as mayor was to push for the

hiring of a housing co-ordinator — the city's first. He also spearheaded a joint one-year demonstration project with Halifax and Halifax County which will result in about 250 housing units in the three municipalities, 82 of them in Dartmouth. Small-scale and designed to blend in with the houses around them, these developments will include second-stage housing for battered women, housing for seniors, and a co-op for low- and middle-income families.

The number of provincially subsidized day-care spaces in Dartmouth has increased by about 25 (from 180 to approximately 205) since Savage took office. Not a large number, perhaps, but he's seen as a strong supporter.

The city that Savage has inherited as mayor looks a great deal different from when he arrived there in 1961. It's continued to sprawl, with much of its population driving home each night to suburban neighbourhoods replete with shopping malls. "In Dartmouth," says one longtime resident, Joanne Lamey, "shopping malls formed more of a community focus than the Dartmouth Commons (a downtown park area) or the lakes."

The city is noted for having 23 lakes within its boundaries, for the thriving Burnside Industrial Park in its far north end, and recently, for its revitalized,

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charmingly old-fashioned downtown core. In the mid-1980s the province spent \$15-million dressing up downtown Dartmouth, and it's gradually regaining some of its long-lost vitality.

People in the community say they like Savage for his personality and his approachability. "He's spontaneous, sort of shiny," says Connie Wenaus, director of the Dartmouth Senior Service Centre. "He's brought a certain *joie-de-vivre* to the office."


"He's available to everyone," adds Barbara Cottrell, who works in the community services department at the Dartmouth Regional Library.

In 1986 Savage was the only Atlantic Canadian to go on a Mission for Peace fact-finding tour to El Salvador, a country that's been ravaged by civil war since the early '80s.

After the tour, the group made a presentation to the deputy director of the United Nations and recommendations to Canadian External Affairs staff in Ottawa — they recommended suspension of Canada's existing program of bilateral aid to El Salvador because of their belief that the money was not going to the people who needed it most.

If Savage makes his way into federal politics in the near future, his input into external affairs issues will be well worth watching. It's widely speculated that the time is coming for him to run federally again — or enter provincial politics — and Savage's only comment is, "I think people expect me to complete one term as mayor."

Some of his critics accuse him of using the office as a political stepping stone. Joanne Lamey, a founding member of the Austenville Residents Association in downtown Dartmouth, says she's "somewhat disappointed" in Savage. "I voted for him thinking that he was a breath of fresh air, and that we'd see a lot of things change at City Hall in terms of it opening up — more women, more blacks." Council has passed an affirmative action policy, she notes, but she hasn't seen much change. "There is still no shelter for battered women, for example, no well-woman clinics. Some people believe that he is stymied by a very conservative council, but if the Mayor is able to initiate the Watercan project and get council to go along with it, I can't see why he can't provide more leadership in other areas."

Some of his female supporters admit that when it comes to treating women as equals — a suitable goal for one who's known as a proponent of social justice — Savage tries but he doesn't always get it right; he has a tendency to be paternalistic. Very few people question his sincere concern for social issues, however. And Savage himself is aware of these shortcomings. "I'm a middle-of-the-road, middle-class, middle-aged male," he says, "with all of the biases therein." 



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by Alice LeDuc

When we eagerly await the first produce of our gardens we generally think only of things that we've planted. But nature has provided us with many supplements, both in and around the garden, which will enhance a salad or serve as a tasty addition to a casserole, soup or stew.

Many people know dandelion greens are supposed to be edible, but have been disillusioned by a bitter taste when they finally try some. The secret is to harvest early, says Dr. Leo Dionne, a botanist living in New Brunswick. Although the roots and crown are edible, the tastiest and easiest parts to prepare are the tender green leaves, picked before a flower stem has emerged.

Dionne notes that a number of wild edibles are bitter or sharp-tasting, and are much improved by boiling in one or more changes of water before serving or using as an ingredient in a recipe.

Some of the better known edible wild plants used as food include purslane, lamb's-quarters and fiddleheads. Although we are often anxious to rid our garden of its purslane carpet, the same plant is cultivated for food in parts of Europe. The thick, juicy stems and fleshy leaves are generally used fresh but can be dried in late summer for winter use. The whole plant (except the root) can be pickled like cucumber, using your favourite recipe.

Lamb's-quarters are available to all but the most diligent garden weeder, since it springs up easily. Harvested when still young, the leaves can be steamed the same way as spinach, and taste very similar.

Fiddleheads, considered a delicacy, are at the right stage for eating only in early spring before the young fronds start to unfurl. They can be steamed and served straight, or, as a special treat, with your favourite cheese sauce.

Many plants that we cherish for their aesthetic value are tasty additions to the salad bowl — for example, nasturtium flowers, and even daylily flowers, although the latter has a strong flavour and should be added sparingly.

While there are recipes devised specifically for edible wilds, many of these plants are comparable to more conventional vegetables and can be readily substituted in your favourite recipes. Jerusalem artichokes are comparable to potatoes, but are yellower, crisper and sweeter. They contain no starch, says Dionne, making them valuable to people on low-starch diets.

Cattails are one of the best known edible wild plants in North America, and naturalists say it would be difficult to starve in an area where these plants abound. Probably no other plant tops the

A feast from the wild

Nature's bounty of edible wild greens offers a delectable array of flavours — free for the picking

cattail for the number of different foods it produces.

In spring, the tender young shoots provide a delicious dish similar in taste to cucumber. Young flower stalks can be taken from their sheaths, boiled for 20-30 minutes and eaten like corn-on-the-cob. Cattail pollen can be mixed with an equal amount of flour to make breads, muffins and pancakes. The roots may be dug up in fall and used year round, providing a food source rich in carbohydrates.

All in all, says Dionne, don't be afraid to experiment with the wild edibles you have at your disposal. As with the recipes below, you may be in for some delectable surprises.

Dandelion salad

- 4 thick slices bacon, cubed
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- 3 tbsp. bacon drippings
- 3 tbsp. flour
- 1 tsp. sugar
- ½ cup vinegar
- ½ cup water

- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 3 hard-boiled eggs, sliced
- 1 pound leaf lettuce
- Young, tender dandelion greens, washed and chilled

Tear greens into small pieces and combine. Brown bacon, reserving 3 tbsp. fat. Blend egg, flour and sugar. Add vinegar, water, salt and pepper. Stir into bacon and drippings. Simmer until slightly thickened. Cover the mixed greens with sliced egg. Pour on sauce. Serve immediately.

Artichoke-pork pastry

- 2 pounds pork shoulder, cubed
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- ¼ cup flour
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup onion, finely diced
- 2 tsp. garlic, chopped
- 2 cups Jerusalem artichokes, chopped
- ¾ cup carrots, finely diced
- 2 cups pork stock
- ¼ cup parsley
- ½ tsp. sage
- ¼ tsp. allspice
- Basic pie crust recipe

Toss pork cubes with salt, pepper and flour. Sauté onion and garlic in oil until tender. Add the artichokes and carrots to the onion and garlic. Mix well. Add pork cubes and brown over medium heat, stirring constantly. Add the pork stock to pork mixture. Reduce heat to simmer. Add seasonings and cook 30 minutes. Cool before using.

Roll out pie pastry to about ⅛ inch thick. Cut into six inch rounds. Place ½ cup of pork filling in centre of each pastry round. Fold in half. Seal inside edges with water. Crimp outside edges with fork. Place pastries on baking sheet and bake for 30-35 minutes in a 425 °F oven. Makes 6-8 servings.

Apple-elderberry pancakes

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp. sugar
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 2 cups milk
- 2 tbsp. butter, melted
- 1 cup apples, finely chopped
- 1 cup elderberries

Stir together dry ingredients. Combine eggs and milk. Pour into dry ingredients, stir well. Wash berries thoroughly and de-stem. Mix together with apples and butter. Let batter stand five minutes. Fry on hot griddle using ½ cup batter for each. (For thinner pancakes use ⅓ cup batter.) Serve hot with butter and sugar. Makes 8-12 pancakes.



FOLKS

There's more to potatoes than meets the eye. **Janet Reeves** of Summerside, P.E.I. has proven this in her recently published cookbook, *One Potato, Two Potato*.

Reeves, who works as a secretary with Linkletter Farms, one of the Island's largest potato growers, came up with the idea of writing a book two years ago while attending a writers' seminar in Charlottetown. Over coffee, several writers discussed possible ideas for books, and Reeves was encouraged by the author of *Muffins and More* to write about what she knows best.

With this in mind, two weeks later she made several phone calls to inquire as to whether there was a cookbook solely about potatoes. After checking with libraries and government departments, she learned there was no such book and her next step was to phone Ragweed Press in Charlottetown. Publisher Libby Oughton liked the idea and Reeves was given the go-ahead to write the book.

It was her first writing venture and it turned out to be a full year of researching and testing more than 300 potato recipes. Finally it was ready for the publisher. With 244 pages of valuable potato trivia and recipes on everything from appetizers to after-dinner-mints, and everything in-between, Reeves feels she more than did her homework on the topic of potatoes.

The book contains the history of the potato going back to 500 B.C., information on nutritional value, buying and storing of the potato, a section on the International Potato Centre in Peru, as well as information on the Potato Museum in Washington, D.C.

— *Kathy Jorgensen*

Dr. Donald (Dixie) Dingle is the duck doctor of Portugal Cove, Nfld. The 56-year-old orthopaedic surgeon has made his seven acre property near St. John's a sanctuary for ducks and other animals that have been mistreated or injured. He has mended broken wings, beaks and necks, sutured cuts and gaping holes and put on plaster casts.

His menagerie, that began with two



Reeves writes about potato appetizers, potato after-dinner mints and other delights

ducks found injured on Quidi Vidi Lake in St. John's, has swelled to 35 ducks, a goose named Arthur that rules the roost and two fighting cocks that were saved from death and now listen to classical music in the goat's shed. Various dogs have also found their way to a safe and happy home with Dr. Dingle.



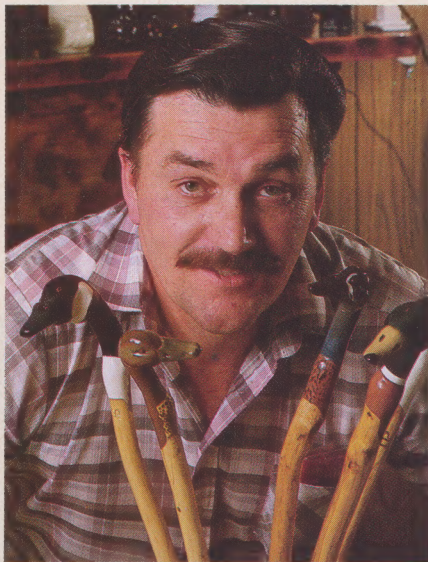
Dingle: offering ducks and dogs a home

Duffy is a pure-bred bassett hound that was left for dead on a wilderness road. Starved and half frozen the dog managed to crawl under the house of Dingle's son-in-law. The noise of the dying animal beating its head against the house brought attention. Dingle took the dog home, repaired its injuries and lovingly brought it back to life. Like Duffy, all the animals that come to the Dingles for help become members of the family. It isn't unusual to see a duck waddling across the kitchen floor after Mrs. Dingle, or Gardenia the goat taking a walk in the woods with the dogs and lapping up water just like them.

— *Sheilagh Guy*

A few years ago **Hayden Birt** of Bedford, P.E.I. found himself unemployed for the first time in 20 years. It was a damp, dreary summer and time was long. Inspiration for a new hobby came from a cane that had been presented to him by a Scout group. He had always been artistically inclined and the idea of carving walking sticks seemed as good as any to pass the time.

With his hands and pocket knife as his only tools, he carved rough cherry wood into a walking cane with a Canada Goose likeness at the head, for clutching. The carving hobby continued for a year with many canes being given away to friends



GORD JOHNSTON

Birt: making one cane is a seven-hour job

and relatives. One of these, carved in the likeness of a hawk's head, went to his brother Donnie, who as the result of a leg injury needed a sturdy walking stick.

After a year of carving, Birt decided to try selling his unique creations and made his first sale at a craft fair in North River, P.E.I. The canes have been purchased by visitors from around the world, finding their way to Japan and Europe. A loon cane was carved by request for Robert Ralph Carmichael of Vancouver, the designer of the Loon dollar coin.

Although the cane business didn't boom, he has sold about 50 canes in the past year at \$40 each. At this price, and looking at the seven hours of intense work in carving and painting the canes, Birt say it's not the money but the pure enjoyment that keeps him at it.

— Kathy Jorgensen

Anyone who grew up in central New Brunswick from the 1940s on will recognize the salutation "Good morning ladies", and the theme music, *Fancy Pants*. If you were still home, that meant it was past nine o'clock, and you were late for school or work. **Jack Fenety** at CFNB Radio from Fredericton, was signing on with his program for housewives, "Fact and Fancy."

The show's creator retired last January. Since 1947 Fenety had hosted "Fact and Fancy." It's thought to be the longest-running show on Canadian radio, and Fenety the longest-serving host. In that time, he became "The Voice" of New Brunswick radio, with a devoted following. That helped his program remain No.1 in the market, even after competition moved in from television and new radio stations.

"I think there was a trust there, between the voice, and the tradition," says Fenety. "Traditionally, people turn on CFNB at 12:30 p.m. to hear the news to midday. And 'Fact and Fancy' was the same."

"Fact and Fancy" seemed a bit dated in recent years; women were ladies, the hints and facts were for stay-at-home housewives. But Fenety started it for homemakers, and he kept a loyal, albeit aging audience. The show was deceptively simple but it incorporated many of the elements that became staples for radio morning shows. Until Jack started doing it, nobody phoned the weather office, or announced community bulletins.

He'd read a poem, play a hymn, and give advice. And the listeners paid attention to Jack. "They'd say, 'I don't plan to pick strawberries or hang out my laundry unless you say it'll be a bright sunny day.'"

Fenety announced his retirement in

sentimental style, on CFNB's 65th anniversary. It was the first radio station east of Montreal — its strong signal stretches from Maine to Labrador — and Fenety has been its most famous voice.

The devotees of the voice behind "Good Morning Ladies" sent in their sad congratulations. Bags of mail, even poems about Jack, flooded CFNB. But for Fenety, retirement just means shifting gears. Look for *Fact and Fancy*, the book, in about a year.

— Bob Mersereau



BRUCE BERRY

Van den Hoeks make Old World favourites

Every month, three food-lovers in Manitoba happily open packages of their favourite cheese — mailed from Economy, N.S. Cheese from the farm of **Willem and Maja van den Hoek** is fast becoming known as some of the best inside — and outside — Atlantic Canada.

Immigrants to Nova Scotia in 1970, the van den Hoeks didn't learn the art of cheesemaking in Europe — they learned it here, from their neighbours on the shore of the Bay of Fundy between Truro and New Brunswick. Almost 20 years later, the van den Hoeks are the only large-scale cheese-makers left in the area.

"It's hard to make a living along this shore but I like what I'm doing," says Willem. "It's a nice product to make. And it allows me to work at home and be with our kids."

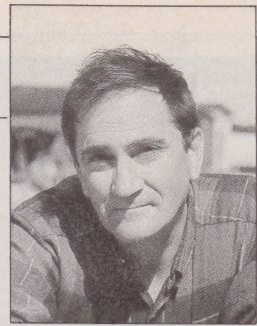
Every Saturday Maja drives to the Halifax farmers' market with dozens of wheels of cheese and loaves of homemade breads in tow. The couple also operates northern Nova Scotia's most famous tea room. Open in the summer months, it boasts delicious homemade Old World favourites, including Appeltaart and Black Forest cake. "People have to be pretty dedicated to come up here," says Willem. "Still, we have quite a few regular customers, who take a detour from the Trans-Canada."

— David Swick



GEOFFREY GAMMON

Jack Fenety gave New Brunswick homemakers a daily dose of Fact and Fancy for 40 years



The giggle value of religion

Now, don't you make mock, mind," was a standard caution to youngsters whenever visitors stayed to tea or dinner. Religion, you see. By no means all the wayfarers invited to break bread around the kitchen table had the advantage of being Church of England. You were impressed at an early age with the importance of overlooking the others' outward spiritual peculiarities.

Mustn't glance bemusedly at a sibling when the Roman Catholics from up the road blessed themselves. Mustn't so much as smile when the Salvationists from a few doors down signed off mealtime grace with "Aye-men" instead of the kosher "Aw-men." Mustn't roll eyes and sigh if the Wesleyans from down the road launched into an elaborate grace of their own manufacture which seemed nine miles long.

If the very occasional Russellite or the extremely rare devotee of Mary Baker Eddy was being victualled the excitement among us young set was even keener — not even the grownups were certain what *their* particular outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace might be.

"We Must Not Hurt Their Feelings," was the main burden of ecumenical etiquette for young Church of Englanders at my place in my day.

What was kept from us, in our tender years, was that treading on religious toes could be hazardous to your health.

Religion has always been the cause of the devil's own turmoil in Newfoundland. No one's been killed lately but, even as we speak, an RC priest in the centre of the island is up on a charge of shooting out the windows of some holy-rolling tabernacle there.

The most we can boast of in the 400-year Holy War is that the virulent contagion of "troubled Ulster" has never taken permanent root here. We've inherited many of the nasty words but few of the nasty deeds. We don't put gelignite in baby carriages, and that tarpaper tabernacle was vacant at the time, practically.

But an ingrown and calcified religious bigotry still lurks among the rocks. From time to time, as a small public service, I chuck some calculated religious slur into the public prints, not for the sake of "making mock" but to try and pinpoint today's source of deep throaty growls and fang-bared hisses from the underbrush.

Newfoundland is, roughly, half-and-half English and Irish, a schizophrenic hash if there ever was one. The census

splits us into three on religion — one-third Roman Catholic, one-third Church of England or "Anglican" and one-third "Other."

Things started out nice and simple with the Established Church putting the official boot to the slats of the Irish Papists while the Micks, by means naturally charming and necessarily devious, finally achieved a limpet-like hold among the Newfoundland rocks and a ferocious instinct to defend hard-won gains.

These days it's the "Other" who most often keep the stew bubbling. John Wesley complicated matters. One day, years ago, both Anglicans and R. Catholics glanced up from the ancient scrimmage and noticed that their flocks were being raided. A large consignment of their mutual contempt, loathing and fear was then redirected to Wesleyans, later, Methodists, later, United.

The entertainment value of religion can't be overestimated in a place like Newfoundland, especially in isolated communities too poor even to afford a half-decent village idiot.

Folks were downright bored with Hail Marys and Prayers For the King's Majesty. They kicked over the traces for the novelty of Methodism. When that commenced to pall, along came the Salvation Army with its big brass drum and when the Sally Anns seemed tame there was a rush to the Pentecostals.

For many, even the Pentys eventually palled and then there was a scamper toward the evangelical oddities and splinters spewed out in dazzling variety by the American Bible Belt...and then came TV and Tammy Faye.

About the only constant through the centuries among God-fearing Newfoundlanders has been the merry crash and tinkle of rocks being flung through the windows of various and sundry Houses of God.

At the baptism of our younger there was some consternation in the vestry beforehand over her proposed middle name, Kennedy, a respectful nod in the direction of a dear and defunct great-granny.

"Mumble, mumble, ahem, er, ah, not the Papist Kennedys, you understand, vicar, the Scottish Kennedys, old chap."

The broader tumults and the deeper turmoil wrought by Newfoundland's religious lunacies go back a ways.

A few years ago the raving geniuses in Tourism decided it was Newfoundland's 400th anniversary and chose Humphrey

Gilbert as the star of the show.

Sir Humphrey had spent his early years trying to "pacify" the Irish but his direct connection with Newfoundland occurred in 1585 when he sailed into St. John's, made all the Spanish, Portuguese, French and other Papist craft in the harbour kowtow and threatened to cut off the ears of anyone badmouthing the first Queen Elizabeth.

I asked the tall and gangly lad in Queen Size taupe pantyhose, plumed hat and horn-rimmed glasses (he was personifying Sir Humph on one of the Gulf ferries) what question he was most often asked. He may not have been joking. "How many Irish babies did you kill today?"

Before it went up in flames a few years back there was a pub in the east end of St. John's among the new hotels where you either drank to the health of the IRA or suffered interrogation in the alley out back.

Many of the grand old St. John's mercantile houses had the firm policy of never hiring a Roman Catholic and the few businesses of the other persuasion responded in kind. Nothing much remains today but the stigma.

William Coaker, a pioneer socialist early in the century, saw his united fishermen spread like wildfire and leap from bay to bay until it hit the Catholic ghettos of the south and one mumbo-jumbo crusade crashed a far older one.

In the pre-Confederation skirmishes all the stops were pulled and dirty sectarian tricks dating back to the Middle Ages were dusted off and chucked into the pot.

More recently there was the Newfoundland premier who, on the eve of a hot election, distributed casefulls of Vatican-blessed bibelots in Catholic districts and, to cover all bases, joined the Loyal Orange Lodge up north in Protestantville.

A nutshell sketch of Newfoundland's self-eviscerating religious madness is the fact that, guaranteed by the Terms of Union with Canada, seven different religious denominations run the school system.

True, there's been some Christian mellowing in the center but at the focal where the wilder charismatics and the more vicious evangelicals meet on a fiery common ground Sir Humphrey might feel quite at home.

You still mock at your peril yet make mock we must in hope of giggling divers devils to death.

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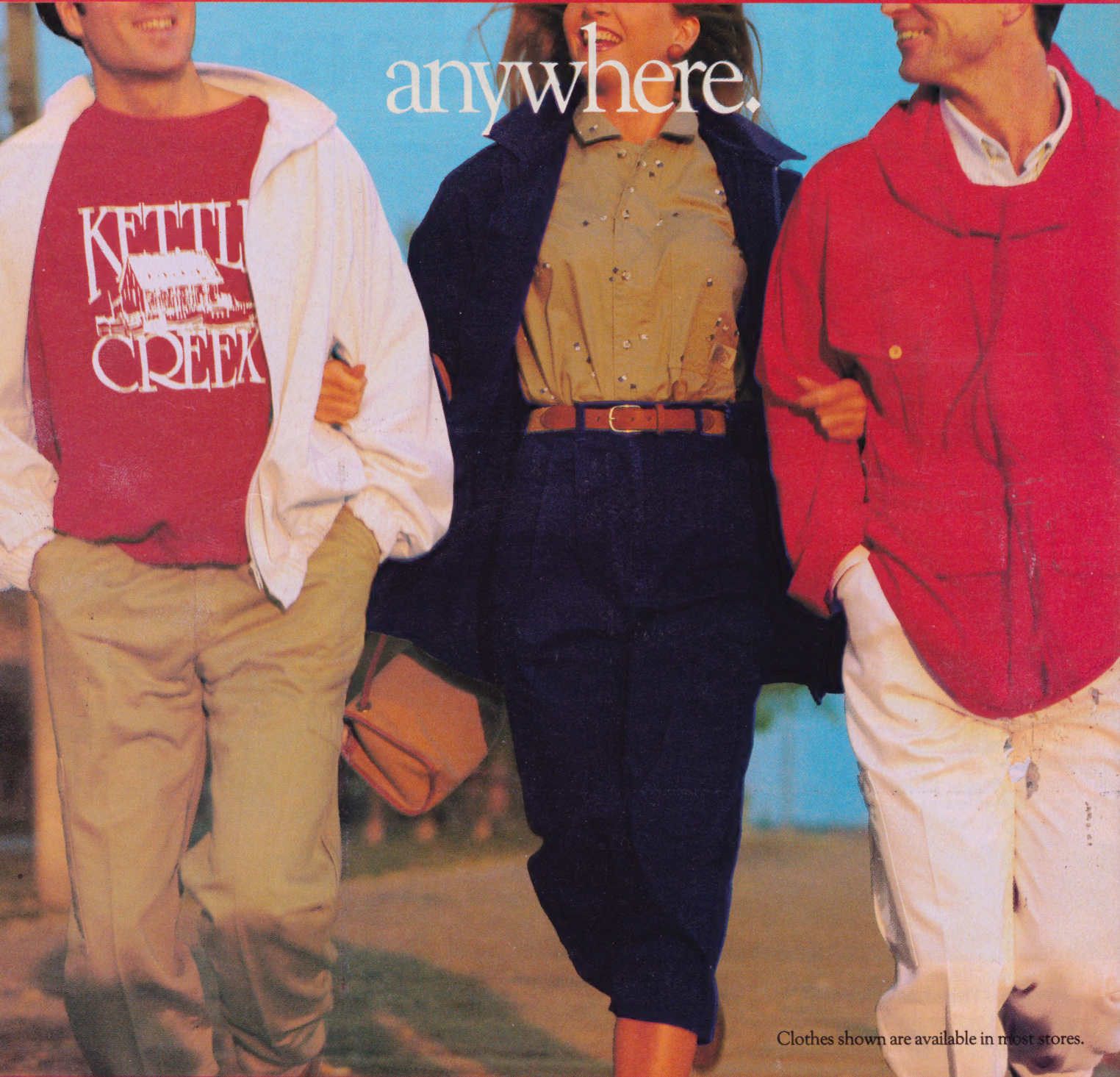
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